

WHANGAREI BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2022



NEWS FROM OUR CLUB

We begin with a warm welcome to all our players past and present back to the bridge table. At our May meeting the committee, by unanimous decision, agreed to now open the clubrooms to all and for it to no longer be a vaccinated venue. The changed traffic light settings and the reality of Covid in our community sees the club move forward in the knowledge that the vast majority of our membership has received protection by way of vaccination and booster. We encourage all our members to keep up to date with boosters and to wear masks at playing sessions if they wish to do so.

A big thank you to John McIntosh for his popular improvers lessons that attracted often more than 20 keen members. His evenings are now taking a break but will return later.

Our lessons continue to go well this year with 25 new students to the game. A reminder that any members are welcome to join the lessons for a refresh on the basics.

Congratulations to our members who have qualified to represent the Region in the InterProvincial teams. Our tournament that was cancelled earlier in the year will now take place in early July. We also see the return of the trading table in June. More details on these later in the newsletter.

To run a club we are reliant on volunteers to step forward and help. We are in need of some support so please consider the requests for help and step forward if you can.

Whangarei Bridge Club Committee

Dealers needed

The cards we play at every club session and tournament are dealt weekly on our dealing machine. Our dealer numbers have reduced and we need members to step forward to learn this process and support the club in this way. Full training is given and we hope to find 3 pairs of dealers willing to work on a roster so their commitment would be only once every 6 weeks. Please see Olive if you can help.

Newsletter scribe needed

The current newsletter scribe will be stepping down at the AGM in August. If you could help produce the monthly newsletter please speak to Lee.

New Online tournament from NZB – Sunday evenings

A new masterpoint event on Real Bridge run by NZB. Open, Restricted Open, Intermediate and Junior categories. Join in on Sunday evenings approx. once a month. Just \$40 for 10 sessions – you and your partner have to play 8 sessions for your score to count in the final placings and masterpoint awards. Read all the details [here](#). First session **Sunday 29 May**.

TOURNAMENT ROUND-UP - MAY

Congratulations to our Whangarei players in recent tournaments.

Kerikeri Dolphin Pairs:

Winners - **Lee Walters** and **Patsy Walters**

Runners up: **Neil Ruddell** and **Tania Brown**

Top non-open pair: **Ian Johnson** and **Vanessa McGoldrick** (5th)

Whangarei Open Pairs

3rd place – **John McIntosh** and **Roger Bell**

Top non-open pair: **Roger Johnson** and **Cynthia Johnson**

Northland/Auckland Regional InterProvincial Teams

The Regional trials took place over the weekend of 7/8 May online.

All five players from our club who entered emerged successful. Northland players comprise one third of the Regional team which is a feat never achieved over the decades of the competition.

Women's team:

Jane Stearns and Cheryl Winsor (Howick)

Intermediate team

Kevin Grundy and **Kim Thomas**

Alan Pumfleet and **Juliet Golightly**

Kevin and Kim did not lose a single match and won the intermediate section by a large margin. Alan and Juliet were in 3rd place overnight with the top two pairs to be guaranteed a place in the 6 person squad. Despite a loss on day 2 to Kevin and Kim, they regrouped and came through to the guaranteed 2nd place in their final match.

At Friday lunchtime Jane and Cheryl hadn't discussed a system. A scratch pairing, they had never played together at the start of the trials on Saturday. A hasty system put together Friday afternoon saw the surprising result of them coming second and securing a place on the Northland/Auckland Women's team. As Jane said, "I thought I was having a one-night stand. I was surprised to find myself in a committed relationship for the next 6 months with no morning after pill available. I should have thought about the possible consequences more carefully!"

All players are now in a training programme and being coached ahead of the national event in November. Many congratulations to them all for their performances and bringing Whangarei and Northland into focus on the national bridge map.

Trading Table returns – 30 May to 30 June

If anyone has items to donate to the club please bring along (in boxes).

Top Tips – Etiquette

- All players are entitled to see the cards played to a trick at the table – remember your own hand is not transparent – ensure good visibility of your cards played to all tricks at the table.
- To save unnecessary calls to the director for leads out of turn – always place your opening lead card face down and wait for your partner’s cue to turn the card over. Provided one other player at the table is awake – you can place the card back in your hand if not exposed and the lead can come from the correct player without a director call.
- Whilst south enters the score it is east’s job to check it. Remember to take your share of the responsibility of ensuring the score entered is correct.

Upcoming tournaments

28 May: **Paihia** BOI New World 5A Open pairs – at Opuia Community hall.

4/5/6 June: Queen’s Birthday weekend Pairs and Teams – **Auckland**

11 June: Towai Cup – annual match v Kerikeri – this year held in **Kerikeri**

23 July: *Broome Intermediate/Junior tournament (rescheduled) – **Whangarei**

*Note: This tournament will not have masterpoints awarded and so entries will not be online via NZB. **Email your entry to Lee Walters.** It is the ideal relaxed environment for new players to try tournament play for the first time.

Club results:

Mon morning – Penguin Cup: **Janice Johnson** and **Helen Brodie**

Wed morning – Phoenix Pairs: **Raewyn Keane** and **Jenny Trigg**

Thursday eve – Magnetite Pairs – **Tania Brown** and **Olive Dent**

Friday morning – Sunshine Pairs – **Tony Simmonds** and **Janice Johnson**



Happy Bridging!