

# Whangarei Bridge Club



August 2020

## Graduation Day



The Class of '22

Lessons are finished for the year and we have 25 new members raring to go. On Monday 18 July we handed out certificates to 18 alumni in a graduation ceremony. We had a good turnout of members wanting to welcome the new cohort. The graduation was a party with finger food and wine. We even had a cake.



Although lessons are finished beginners' sessions will continue on Monday evening and Tuesday morning for a little while. These are meant to get the new players used to the way we play at regular sessions. Any Club members can come along. Just be aware that play will be slow and the new members may use crib sheets.

Our thanks as always to Richard Bland for giving the lessons and to Lyn Nelson for her organising skills. That the lessons seemed easy is testament to their preparation.

## A View From The Bridge



President Lee Waters

I am very proud to be President of the Whangarei Bridge Club.

Everlasting friendships have been made and there are many more to come. It's the friendly atmosphere, the way we all care for each other.

Encouraging members to participate in all aspects of the club is my theme song for this coming year. I would like to see more members taking part whenever possible doing whatever they can in helping keep our home (*Club*) ticking along. It may be a little thing but if each of us could do one little thing it would make life easier for us all.

I love the game (*Bridge*) there is never a dull moment, no hand is ever the same and just when I think I've mastered it. Bridge reminds me that I am just an apprentice and still have a lot more to learn but that's why I keep coming back. That and to see my second family (*the Club*).

"Some people have problems counting cards. I don't understand. I could count to 52 when I was 5 years old." *Terence Reece, Master Bridge Player*

## Beginners' Sessions

With our graduates finishing lessons now is a good opportunity to remind ourselves of how daunting that move from lessons to club play can be. The teaching team have put in months of work and one sharp word can end a beginner's bridge life. So be patient, be kind, be encouraging. Not all beginners are equal – some will catch on quickly whereas others may be hesitant and unsure. Please be supportive of our newer and more nervous beginners.

We are continuing the lesson sessions on Monday evening and Tuesday morning. Whilst formal lessons have stopped these are a transition towards real bridge. We don't follow strict rules, so crib sheets are allowed and it is common for players to ask for advice. (And take back bad bids or cards.)

The Wednesday morning and Tuesday evening sessions are the entry points for beginners. The normal rules of duplicate bridge apply but **play will be slower** in these sessions to ensure beginner comfort. If you don't like slow play and higher noise levels – these sessions are not for you.

### Reminder

We should all be seated at least 10 mins before play so that the director can plan the movement by the number of tables.

## General Etiquette

We have a friendly Club and although we play hard, we try to be friendly and polite. Greet people as they join your table and be a good host. On arrival acknowledge your host's greeting and be a good guest. The NZ Bridge web site has a list of dos and don'ts. One of the more unusual prohibitions is a ban of singing during play. Other don'ts include bullying, harassment and sexual innuendo. It's all about making everyone feel comfortable.

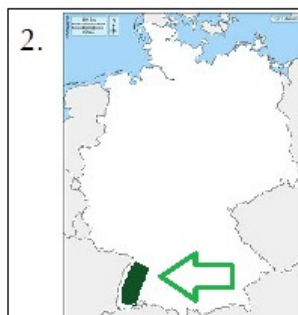


There is enough time to complete your boards but you have to keep moving. If you are South, make the opening lead or lay down Dummy's cards before you enter the contract on the tablet. Don't indulge in lengthy post-mortems before you finish all your boards

If there are any infractions, no matter how minor, call the Director. It is the Director's job to make things right so play can continue. If you try to rectify a fault yourself, it can make things very difficult. To call the Director, stick your hand in the air and shout, "Director please!" Keep your hand up until it is acknowledged.

A note for beginners: Calling for the Director is a common part of Bridge. Don't feel threatened if the Director is called to your table even if you are in the wrong. It is the Director's job to apply whatever remedies are needed to let the game proceed fairly. It is not the Director's job to punish people.

### Spot the Convention



A quick puzzle, just for fun. The two pictures on the left indicate a couple of Bridge conventions. The answers are at the foot of the next page.

# Annual General Meeting – 28 August 2022

Sunday 28 August is a date for your diary with the AGM starting at 1:30. This is not only an essential meeting in the club year, but it is also a chance to catch up with people you normally just meet briefly at a table in a Bridge Session. (You also meet people who go to different sessions.) It is worthwhile arriving half an hour in advance.

The AGM starts with a bit of admin (minutes etc.) and then gets down to the real business. We hear reports by the Officers, elect a new committee and hear remits. We will try to publish the reports before the meeting so the Officers may be questioned. Remits are simply motions that change the way the Club is run. Occasionally the Committee will propose a remit to get a mandate to spend money on some essential work. Sometimes a member may suggest a way that we could do things better.

If you have a remit, then you should tell the Committee as soon as possible. They will then publish it in the agenda so that members can give it proper consideration before the discussion. If a serious proposal is sprung at the last minute, the Meeting has the option of referring it back for more thought.

Nomination forms for Committee posts are on the notice board on the wall. If you would like to stand, then write your name on the wall next to your preferred position and get two members to nominate you. Aside from the named posts (President, Secretary etc.) there are four ordinary members. If you would like more information, then talk to any current committee member.

## Tournaments and Results for July

Congratulations to **Kevin** and **Jane** who had a very close semi-final match in the Regional Rubber Bridge competition. It all came down to the last board (of 30) and the cards fell their way. They now meet an Auckland pair in the final.

### Tournaments

Kerikeri BOI New World Pairs:	Lee Orton / Patsy Waters
Broome Family Open	Roger Bell / John McIntosh
Broome Family Intermediate	Yvonne McKinnon / Rosalie Ross
Broome Family Junior	Ron Plumfleet / June Zhu

### Club Sessions

Craig Investment Partner Pairs	Janice Johnson / Helen Brodie
Auckland Cup	Lee Waters
Manaia Cup	Tony Simmonds / Ngaire Stephens
Manaia Plate	Judith Robinson / Jenny Trigg
Kensington Cup <sup>1</sup>	Len Dent / Lee Waters
Lodestone Pairs	Wayne Parkinson / Adam Okura

<sup>1</sup> Subject to ratification

#### Spot the Convention

1. Gerber      Picture of a Gerbil -il +er
2. Blackwood      The shaded area is the  
Schwartzwald. Schwartz is German for  
black and Wald is German for woods