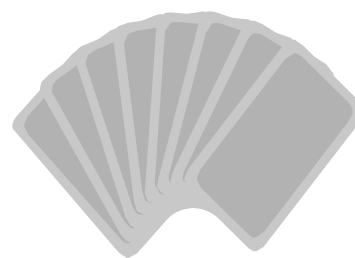


♠ GRAND ♥ ♦ SLAM ♣



Rotorua Bridge Club Newsletter #6 - 25 June 2021

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Hello Members

The month of June has certainly been very busy for the bridge club with lots of activity. Listed below are all the updates of this activity.

Mid Winter Dinner/Welcome of New Recruits

Held on Wednesday 9 June.

54 members attended to welcome the new recruits. The pot luck dinner was amazing, with a beautiful array of food, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. (thanks, members, for providing such a great selection of plates). We all then played bridge, with a movement which saw everyone being mixed, with a new partner after each board. This meant new recruits got the chance to play and meet a lot of the current members. The atmosphere was both fun and enjoyable, with many saying it was the best mid winter function we have had at the club. Thanks to those who attended.

Rotorua Open 5A Tournament 19 June

Wow – what an experience playing in this A grade tournament. Challenging and a great learning experience. It highlighted for me the strength of some of the playing partnerships, and the great advantage this brings to tournament play. The club house was full of Grand Masters, NZ Rep Players, top Open partnerships, and many Rotorua pairs who stepped up to play. Great experience for us all.

The top 5 Pair Winners were all visitors with a range of percentages from 63.85% down to 59.21% (full results on club website).

Success from locals included:

Best Rotorua Pair: Heini Lux and Alan Dick 53.33%

Session 2 Section 1 Winners: Trish Stephens and Tom Henwood 56.22%

A big thanks to the committee members, and Kim and Frank Billington, who stepped up and helped on the day. All your efficiencies made the day run smoothly.

Monday Evening Bridge

This new/extra session of bridge has been introduced to our programme. We have had 2 sessions with 6 tables and 5 tables of players. There has been no impact on other session numbers, with all players using this session as an extra to other sessions already being played. At this stage it is deemed to be successful, with directors and scorers stepping up to help. The committee will review next month, once the trial period is near completion. Come and enjoy an extra session if this day and time suits you - Monday 7pm (seated by 6:45).

Bay Teams Tournament 25 July

Thank you to those who submitted their names to be considered for this teams event, competing against other BOP bridge clubs. It was great to see so many showing an interest to be involved, thus making the selection a hard task.

The Team is:

OPEN	Heini Lux and Alan Dick Marie Milsum and Margaret Hodgson
INTERMEDIATE	Roger Dempster and Colleen Allen Elspeth Goodrick and Wendy Blackman
JUNIOR	Kathryn Morgan and Mareli Esterhuysen Christine de Vries and Hilary Williams

Slow Play

We, as a committee have discussed at length the problem of slow play at our senior bridge sessions, which are Monday afternoon and Thursday night.

As you know, bridge is a timed sport and we expect players who join the senior sessions to be able to play to the clock. To date we have been fairly lax about enforcing this rule. Starting Monday 28 June, we will be turning off all hand analysis information on the bridgemates as one tool to help speed up play. In addition, the clock will be on and when the warning buzzer goes, you should be well into your last board, so that you can move promptly when the final buzzer goes. Your assistance in helping us keep to time will result in a happy, relaxed Director and a much more enjoyable session for all players. If you are having trouble playing to time, we have 3 other sessions available where more leeway is allowed. And, if you are really keen on hand analysis, pick up a hand record at the end of play or check out the emailed results on our website for more

details.

Handicap System

There have been a number of queries in relation to the handicap system which we introduced in 2020. This system is being used in clubs in NZ who use Compass scoring and results collated by X Club.

This system is based on every individual's XG rating, and is updated every time a person plays. This XG system is not subjective and uses large amounts of data which improves the accuracy of calculation and current ability of each player. Each week's results are added to this calculation.

The handicap system also takes into consideration your XG rating, that of your playing partner, and that of your opponents. This effectively then sets an expected score for you and your partner within the field you play. If you exceed the expectations, then your XG should increase the following week, and vice versa should you fall short of expectation.

For further explanation with examples go to www.compassmate.bridge-centre.org/handicap.

New Recruits

It is pleasing to see so many of the new recruits actively playing at our bridge sessions, with all endeavoring to play two sessions each week, and some even coming to the rooms to play 'home bridge' on Thursday night while the playing session is in progress. (this has been approved by the Committee for new recruits only, as a way of encouraging interest in the game during this initial learning curve).

Ongoing compliance of the following is requested for all sessions:

WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE. We are not setting a good example to our new recruits by forgetting to put these on.

Do not 'correct' new recruits for petty issues, e.g. highlighting of system when opening bid is 1C or 1NT. (this will come with time).

Do not offer advice or tell them what they 'should have bid or played' at end of board.

New recruits should now toss to determine who sits N/S or E/W at each table. If a new recruit is sitting south, please assist with the management of the bridgemate until they get up to speed.

All last year's recruits can ask for 'help' with their bidding, along with this year's recruits. Due to the merging of lessons at the end of last year, you were put under pressure to absorb a lot of lessons all at once. This will help you with your bidding and enjoyment of the game.

Competition Results to Date

Monday: Two day pairs winners to 31/5
Gill Nelson & Maureen Carter 58%
Queen's Birthday winners
Glynis Penhale & Kathleen Mole 60%

Monday Evening 2 night pairs HCP winners to 21/6
Christine de Vries & Jim Morgan 62%

Wednesday: 4 night pairs HCP winners to 2/6
Jean Neame & Dianne Butler 56%
2 night pairs HCP winners to 23/6
Paul Rogers & Mareli Esterhuysen 58%

Thursday 4 night Jean Phillips Mx'd pairs winners
Colleen Allen & Roger Dempster 58%

Friday 4 day pairs HCP winners
Frank Billington & Bev Skilling 66%
3 day individual HCP winner to 11/6
Colleen Allen 55%

Congratulations to all winners.

HAPPY BRIDGING

Colleen