

North Shore Bridge Club Newsletter



15 June 2023

Greetings Fellow Bridgers,

As we approach the Winter Solstice we can look forward to the lengthening days. However, it is the season of coughs and colds - quite a lot of it about at the moment - so please be considerate to your fellow players, not the least your partner.

If you are feeling under the weather please consider asking partner to find a sub while you get over the worst of it and, when you return to the Club, be aware of the correct etiquette around coughing. Remember many other players will be handling the cards that you have in your hands. Wearing a mask, coughing into your elbow while turning away from the table, and liberal use of the hand sanitiser are all recommended.

Aaaah Chooooooooo! Bless you!

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 8 July - 8B Restricted Pairs Tournament

The 'restricted' element disallows Open players from playing together. However, an Open player may pair up with a Junior or Intermediate player. There are no restrictions on Junior and Intermediate players.

It would be great to see lots of you Juniors having a go. Depending on numbers, there will be a prize for the leading Junior/Junior pair, the leading Junior/Intermediate pair, the leading Junior/Open pair, the leading Intermediate/Intermediate pair and the leading Intermediate/Open pair.

This year we are asking all intending participants to enter online - there will be no entry sheet appearing on the noticeboard. This can be done at: nzbridge.co.nz/events.html (on the poster displayed on noticeboard).

Many tournaments are listed. They are displayed by date so you will need to scroll down to 8 July where you will find our tournament. You enter as a pair so you will need your partner's NZB number and your number. The number automatically produces names. Only one of the pair needs to do this.

Entries close Thursday 6 July.

The entry fee of \$30 per player should be paid into the NSBC account 12-3011-0816965-01.

'Particulars' (your name), 'code' (8B) 'reference' (your NZB number)

Play begins at 10 am. Morning tea provided from 9.15 am. Bring your own lunch. Food and drinks at the conclusion of the afternoon session. Prize-giving will be about 4pm.

Friday 14 July Matariki Day Social

Play starts 1pm. Enter your names on the list on the noticeboard. We will find a partner for those entering who do not have one.

\$10 will be deducted from your Compa\$\$ account. Spot prizes, drinks and nibbles at the conclusion of play are included.

Introduction of C points

A few members have expressed their disquiet at the introduction of C points to social sessions. This disquiet has centred around the use of 'cheat sheets' and calling on the advice of the director.

Consultation with NZB advises us that clubs are free to implement their own policies around assisted play.

The NSBC policy states:

"NSBC supports and encourages our Novice and Beginner players, with cheat sheets able to be used sparingly in the early stages of learning, and only at social sessions."

Nothing will change when C points are introduced for the Monday and Thursday social sessions from 1 July.

As every aspiring bicycle rider knows, there comes a time to ditch the training wheels and strike out boldly, independently and proudly.

Look Mum! No hands!

Training for potential Directors

As we players well know, our enjoyment of the game we love is heavily dependent on the Director.

At NSBC we are fortunate to have an experienced and amenable team of directors - but the ranks are thin! It would be great if there are, amongst us, some others willing to step up to the plate.

To this end NZ Bridge is offering an ONLINE course of training/lessons for aspiring club Directors, using the Zoom platform. Six (6) online sessions of approximately 3 hours each are offered to train candidates in basic directing skills and to develop the confidence to direct sessions at their home club.

The sessions are open to all and are free. Dates, times and the contents of each session are available on the Club's notice board.

The first session is Saturday, 24 June.

From the Director's Desk (things you might not know)

The Clarification Period

After the auction has closed but **before** the opening lead is selected there is the opportunity to 'fess up" to anomalies in the auction, such as failure to alert a bid with conventional or additional information, or to correct an incorrect explanation of your bid by partner.

This obligation falls on the **declaring pair only!** (Both the declarer and the soon-to-be dummy.)

The **defending pair must not** reveal any discrepancies in their bidding until the hand is concluded!

Either (or both) of the declaring pair must reveal and clarify any wrong explanations, oversight or discrepancy made by their partner during the auction.

Following this clarification, the defending pair may request a re-opening of the auction. In this case the auction is reopened at the bid that was the subject of the clarification. LHO of this bid restarts the auction.

Defenders should bear in mind that a reopening of the auction may be more beneficial to the declarer than to them.

2024 Subscriptions

This year, subscription invoices will be sent out in the middle of July via email through the Compa\$\$ system. The subscription amount remains unchanged at \$80.00 for Full members and \$60.00 for Associate members.

When the subs are sent out, a corresponding debit or deduction will be made in your Compa\$\$ account.

At that time, if you don't have sufficient funds to cover the cost of the subscription, then your account will go into the red. If you go into overdraft, don't panic. Just make a deposit which is large enough to get you back into the black.

You will need to have covered the cost of the subscription by 20 August or it will be assumed that you are not re-subscribing and your membership will be terminated.

Please, if you do not intend to continue to subscribe, let us know **now** before the invoices are sent out.

Redemption of outstanding Session vouchers

Members are reminded that session vouchers cannot be redeemed after 30 June.

So if you have any unused session vouchers lurking in the bottom of a handbag? ...in the pocket of a coat or garment not worn for sometime? ...in the car?

Last call!

May all your slams be grand!

Richard