

# North Shore Bridge Club Newsletter



17 May 2023

## Greetings Fellow Bridgers

Golfers, bowlers, croquet players, walkers, hikers and bikers... all of you, I'm sure, keep an eye on the weather forecast before you engage in your chosen leisure pursuit.

It seems, fellow bridgers, that we might have to do the same following last Tuesday's (9 May) alert from Civil Defence, that curtailed the session after 12 boards and sent us scurrying home - or rather crawling home through the gridlock that ensued.

## This Sunday, 21 May - Social Bridge, 1pm

Entries on the sheet on the club noticeboard or notify the club by email [nshorebridge@gmail.com](mailto:nshorebridge@gmail.com) or phone our Secretary, Heather Richards on 021-028 34811.

Please endeavour to enter as a pair. However, we will pair you up if unpartnered.

Table money \$10 (deducted from your Compa\$\$ account) includes spot prizes, drinks and food at conclusion of play, and a pair of gumboots to the winning pair - one boot each.

A big thank you to those members who have volunteered to help with food and kitchen/bar duties, cleaning up afterwards. They are unfortunately few in number and we would appreciate any help on the day.

## Compa\$\$

Compa\$\$ has been up and running now for 6 weeks and the few teething troubles have largely settled. I have had favourable feedback from a number of members and we Directors certainly appreciate the lightening of our load that it has enabled.

I wish, on behalf of the club membership, to acknowledge the tremendous work of Mike McLaughlin in getting Compa\$\$ up and running and for his continuing oversight as the system settles in.

A big thank you Mike!

## Deposits into Compa\$\$

I understand that many members who are using Internet banking to make deposits into their Compa\$\$ account are not populating the information fields correctly and some not at all.

Your bank will ask you to populate three fields when you are setting up the payment:  
Particulars = your name, Code = top-up, Reference = your computer number.

It's the Reference field which is the most important. Please put your computer number, and only your computer number, in the last field, the Reference field.

Thanks!

## **Beginners' Lessons**

The course began recently with 30 people enrolled. This bodes well for the future membership of our club at a time when many clubs are experiencing a declining membership.

A third of the new enrolments heard about the course through word of mouth from existing members. Well done you!

Let's continue to spread the good news. We could do with more men - husbands, brothers, uncles, sons, the widower next door, the daughter's boyfriend, Uncle Tom Cobley and all!

### **Name badges**

You and your friends might know your name but newbies possibly do not. Primarily for the benefit of new members, please wear your name badge. It's a lot more welcoming if you do.

## **Awarding of Master Points**

In a major change of policy, the Committee has determined that, from July 1st, Master Points (C points) will be awarded to successful pairs (top quarter) at the following sessions where C points have not previously been awarded:

### **1. Monday a.m. and Thursday evening**

At these sessions (and at Wednesday morning's session) a maximum of 19 boards will be played and Master Points are awarded at half-scale. The winning pair will earn 20 pts each instead of the 40 points earned by the winners in other sessions.

Players are encouraged to reduce their dependence on 'cheat sheets' and advice from the director at these sessions once the awarding of Master Points comes into effect from July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **2. Anzac Day, Matariki, Charity Day and other one-off events**

### **3. Social Sundays**

The earning of Master Points leads to the improvement in grade of players. Novices graduate to Juniors, Juniors to Intermediate, Intermediate to Open.

## **Room Hire**

Many members may have wondered where the stairway leading down from our entrance lobby goes to. It leads to a large room equipped with kitchen and toilet facilities which the club offers for hire. The outlook over Lake Pupuke is outstanding and the rental rates are very reasonable.

Currently there are five groups who hire it regularly - mainly in the evening or on Sunday but we have capacity for many more. If members know of any group or individual who are looking for a venue for a regular weekly/monthly meeting or for a one-off event, please contact the club.

## **Volunteers**

The Club is able to function because a relatively small contingent of Volunteers organize everything from dealing the boards to repairs on the building, running the computer systems to stocking the pantry in the kitchen. \*

We'd like to find a few more Volunteers to assist with the organizing of tasks to be done... not necessarily actually doing the task(s).

For example, quite a number of members have generously offered to cook/bake things for catered events, but someone has to organize them to do so. Someone also has to organize what shopping needs to be done for the kitchen or cleaning supplies, but that doesn't mean they have to do the shopping...although that needs to be done too.

We have a Club member who oversees the management and administration required for the downstairs rental but we are seeking a Volunteer, particularly someone with some computer skills, who would be willing to assist him. It's not difficult but it needs to be done even when he is unavailable.

If you can help, with any of the above or just help in general, please let a Committee member know.

Finally, on a personal note, I wish to thank those many members who offered me good wishes during my recent health scare.

In particular I would like to acknowledge those who stepped up to the plate for me.

You know who you are.

May all your slams be grand!

Richard Ryan  
President NSBC