



## Table Talk July 2023

### What's coming up

#### July competitions

- Monday – Titahi Pairs
- Tuesday – Mixed Pairs
- Wednesday – Whitby Pairs
- Thursday – Onepoto Pairs

#### Club Play

**Keen to play, but don't have a partner? – phone**

**Lyn Mansfield (234-1636) for a Monday partner,**

**Leigh & Alan Savage (232-9926 or 021 112 5136) for a Tuesday partner,**

**Dianne Grain (0274 449 641) for a Wednesday partner, and**

**Dianne Lester (021-0850-0810) for a Thursday partner.**

#### Tournaments in July and August

Kapiti Horowhenua Area Pairs – 20 July

Wellington Open Pairs – 23 July

Waikanae Multigrade Pairs – 30 July

Upper Hutt Multigrade Pairs – 13 August

Karori Open Pairs – 20 August

Otaki Intermediate/Junior Pairs – 20 August

Poppy Roberts 5A Pairs (Prelim 6) – 30 August

Flyers for all tournaments are up on the noticeboard at the Club. You can enter online or write your name on the poster.

To make an on-line entry go to <https://www.nzbridge.co.nz/home>

**Club Supporters** : *all over IT; Margaret McKeefry; Summerset Retirement Villages; Johnson Ebbett Kia and Nissan; McCabe and Company; Guardian Funeral Home; Bridge NZ; Whitby Pharmacy*

## More improver lessons

Margaret is running improver lessons which have been well attended. The remaining lessons are below. If you sign up to these can you please make sure you come or let Margaret know if you can't. Margaret's phone number is 232-8676.

24 July – Bidding over 1 NT

14 August – Cue bids

## Wellington Region Club Champs

A group from our club attended the annual Wellington Region Club Champs on 9 July. Representatives from 8 clubs attended from around the region. This consisted of:

- 1 Open, Open Restricted, Intermediate and Junior grade pair played for each club
- 58 boards of bridge played over 7 rounds, with a ten minute break between each round

"Wow!" you say. Kapi Mana was represented by Lorraine and Eleanor (Open), Kaye and Yvonne (Open Restricted), John J. and Tracey (Intermediate), and Dianne G. and Deirdre (Junior).

They all had a great day playing bridge, and comparing our results at the end of each round. As always with bridge, some rounds we wondered why we got a bad score, when the other pair did what they should! 😞

Thanks to Yvonne, during the afternoon we kept our sugar levels up by eating some yummy chocolate mint slice. The day ended with nibbles & a drink while the results were calculated. Wellington Bridge Club were the winning club, and we came 6<sup>th</sup> overall. You can see the results for each grade by following this link: [Wellington Bridge Club \(NZ\) Bridge Club Results \(nzbridgeclub.org\)](https://nzbridgeclub.org)

## Winter Bridge now held at Wellington Bridge Club

The Wellington Bridge Club is holding Winter Bridge sessions on Saturday afternoons from 1pm to about 4.30pm. It is a good way to spend a wintery afternoon with a scrumptious afternoon tea provided. No partners necessary. Table money is \$10 (discounted to \$8 for Wellington Bridge Club members). For enquiries, please email [wellingtonbridge@gmail.com](mailto:wellingtonbridge@gmail.com) or phone 972 4311.

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## Survey – Response to ideas put forward on the starting and finishing time of evening sessions

Your Club Director, Margaret Robertson, has this response on the suggestions received from the survey on session start and finish times, and scheduling extra playing sessions.

### Starting and finishing times for evening sessions

There were a number of comments received regarding the starting and finishing times of our current evening sessions, some wanting to start playing bridge at 7:00pm so that the session would finish at around 10:00pm. Starting at 7:00pm would also mean that players would need to be at bridge, seated and ready to play by 6:50pm.

While this suggestion has merits, there is one major drawback and that relates to getting directors. Directors usually arrive up to 30 mins before the session begins, so if all the evening sessions were to start at 7:00pm, the directors would need to arrive at or around 6.30pm. On Thursday nights we use Directors from outside our club, who live in the wider Wellington region and feedback is that they would find it difficult to get to the clubrooms by 6:30pm. Three of our club directors who work in Wellington City have said that they would struggle to get to the Club by 6.30 pm. Others who don't work have also made the same comment. So, starting at 7:00pm rather than 7:30pm would cause directing issues.

I also note that some of our members who work in the City can struggle to get to bridge by 7:20pm. They would not be able to play if they had to be at bridge by 6:50pm.

If members would like to finish earlier, then there are several things that could be looked at:

- 1. All club members need to be at bridge, seated and ready to play 10mins before the session starts** (see page 5 of 2023 Programme Book). The director needs to set up the computer in the knowledge of how many are playing. A delay in players arriving (so after 7.20 pm) will inevitably flow onto a delay in the session starting.
- 2. Players do not stop and discuss a board after it has been played (or at least limit that discussion)** – this takes up playing time. On Tuesday & Thursday nights players are given 6 minutes to play each board at a table plus one minute to move between tables. It is East's responsibility to sign off the bridge tab, and it is West's responsibility to promptly move to the next table.
- 3. Limit the number of boards played in a session.** Perhaps 20-22 on a Wednesday, and 24-26 on a Tuesday.

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- 4. Trial starting slightly earlier one night a week, say at 7:15 – possibly on a Wednesday night.** This would mean club members playing on Wednesdays would need to be seated by 7.05pm for the Director to set up the room.

## Playing Sessions

There were several comments received about playing on Monday nights, Friday nights and Sunday afternoons.

We traditionally hold lessons, both learner & improver lessons, on a Monday night. We couldn't run a bridge session as well as lessons at the same time, - we simply don't have room.

The majority of the tournaments held in the greater Wellington area are held on a Sunday, so Sunday play would impact on our members who like to play in the regional tournaments.

Social bridge on Friday nights may have some merit, however it would require someone to volunteer to be responsible for running the evening. If you would be interested in running Friday evening sessions, please let Margaret know.

## To finish on an informative note

Today's Bridge evolved from earlier games such as Whist which dates back to the 16th century.. The story goes that whist players, unwilling to forgo their game merely because there were only three available players, played a game called "dummy" (with one hand exposed).

While the origin of bridge is not definitely known, a similar game appeared in Constantinople before 1870, under the name khedive, and almost the same game had been played in Greece before that. Khedive, whose name had for some reason become biritch, was played on the French Riviera in the 1870s. A pamphlet titled Biritch; or, Russian Whist, was issued in London in 1887 and very nearly described bridge whist. The game's name is an Anglicization of the word biritch.

*Please remember to send your favourite Bridge tips or jokes for the next newsletter to Pam (email [pmclean868@gmail.com](mailto:pmclean868@gmail.com)).*

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