

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk April 2024



We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge

Lessons 2024

Lessons have started! we have 32 starters, which is very pleasing. A huge thank you to those members who gave up their time to distribute flyers, and to those members who introduced friends. And to the helpers who came on opening night – we're off to a great start.

All paid-up members are very welcome to repeat any or all of the formal lessons without charge. Sometimes repeating a lesson or two really cements in what you learned last year.

Thursday evening supervised play

Supervised play will continue on the same night as beginners lessons also 7-9pm.

This week, we are going to try holding it in a far (south-east) corner of our clubroom, while lessons go on at the front of the room. Lessons are by definition a bit noisy and we may move supervised play to **Tuesday night** if that would be better for the players. *Chris Glyde* will discuss moving (or not) with the improver group this week. Many thanks to Chris for leading this group.

Upcoming Tournament

Our next tournament is Saturday 27th April 2024 – a Restricted 8B tournament. Restricted means that no 2 open players may play together.

Please come along and support this tournament. Enter early through NZ Bridge website – if you need help with this, please see *Jonathan Taylor, Kevin Griffin or Terry Evans*.

Tuesday afternoon sessions

These sessions were not well supported – only 2 ½ or 3 tables. The Committee therefore decided to cease them for April and May and re-start them after King's Birthday weekend (Tuesday 4th June will be the first session), when it is hoped that colder and darker days will encourage people to come and play in a warm and happy room.

Would you be more likely to come along if it was a morning start (say 10am, 10.30am?) instead of 1pm start? Don't stop for lunch – but maybe a cuppa at 11.30? We'll be taking a survey in late May.

Lost Property

Following the last tournament in February, several people left serving plates and/or a couple of plastic storage containers behind. These have now been put into the cubes where we store our handbags. If unclaimed, they will be put into the club cupboards.

The WhatsApp Partner-finder Group

This system is working well. Contact *Neil Miller* if you would like to be added to the group.

If you don't have Whatsapp on your phone, the Partnership Secretaries are still there to help you find a partner. Obviously, the more notice you can give, the better. If you would like Whatsapp on your phone and don't have a handy teenager, *Jonathan Taylor* or *Terry Evans* will help you.

Our newest Grandmaster

Warmest congratulations to *Carol De Luca*, who was promoted to Grandmaster in March 2024. She joins our 3 other Grandmasters *Sue Spencer*, *Bev Henton* and *Andrew Janisz*. On the next rank "up" we have a silver Grandmaster (*Trevor Robb*), a gold Grandmaster (*Lynne Geursen*) and an emerald Grandmaster (one of only 3 in all NZ - *Grant Jarvis*). Pretty good for a club of our size!! Carol learned to play bridge in Matamata, originally learning the Goren bidding system, which preceded Standard American, and features strong 1NT and strong twos.



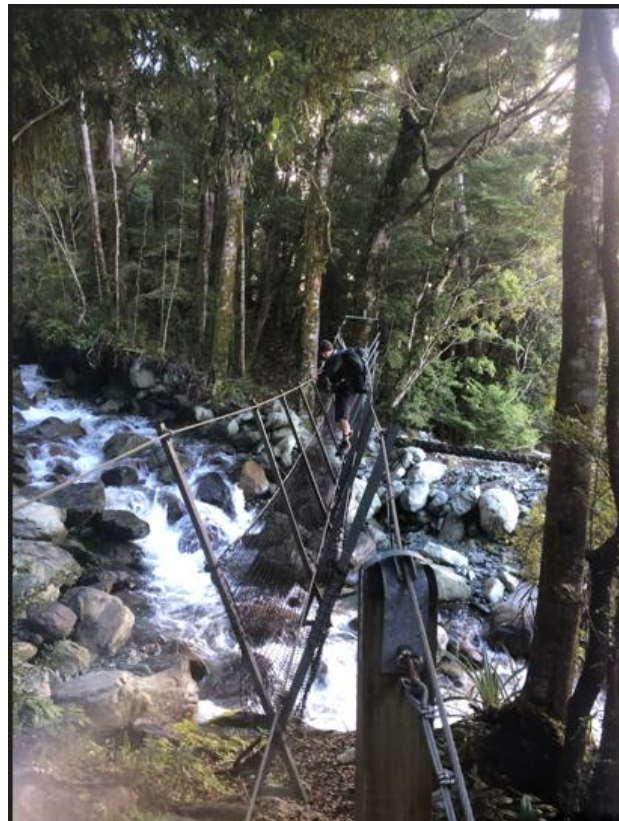
How do Masterpoints work?

On club nights, you are awarded C points when you win, or do well. When you get 100 C points, they convert to 1 x B point. B points do not convert to A points – you win A points in selected tournaments.

To become a Grand Master, you need at least 1000 A + B Masterpoints, of which at least 500 must be A points. Every year on 1st January, older A and B points are discounted by 20% to give more relevance to those points earned more recently.

Player News

- *Teresa Phillips*, *Mary Crawford* and their friend Pip Wooffinden went off to walk the Hollyford Track last month. Inclement weather meant that they couldn't stick to the original plan of flying in a tiny plane to the north-western end (Martin's Bay) and walking "out" towards Te Anau, but they had a Plan B, involving starting from the other end, walking "in" halfway and then walking back the same way. All went well until Teresa had a nasty fall and had to be helicoptered out (both Mary and Pip were well equipped with personal locator beacons). After a night in hospital in Queenstown, and a week "resting" at home (insofar as Teresa ever rests), she was back at bridge the following week



Teresa crossing a “three wire” bridge!

- During their time in one of the huts, Teresa lost no time in teaching Pip the rudiments of bridge! As a result, Pip and Gary will join the lessons which started this week.



- *Maria and Chris* walked part of the Abel Tasman track in late March, and also took in Warbirds Over Wanaka, which had resumed after a 6-year absence. They had great seats on the terrace overlooking the airfield and said that the Marlborough walk was “just magic”.



- *Carol Moore* recently exhibited her Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats at the Kumeu A & P Show. *Neil Miller* went along to help with the heavy lifting, *Linda Thornton* and the *Editor* called in during the afternoon session to show support. Carol was delighted that one of her does, Tippytoe Scribbles, won the ribbon for Reserve Champion



- *Darren Old* has got a job “up North” and is working long hours alongside one of his cousins, so no time for bridge or golf yet.
- Several of the club members are keen “do’ers” of jigsaws. There is a thriving swap group, and of course the local charity shops have a revolving collection of jigsaws. *Carol Moore* is known to do only HARD ones. The Editor started an interesting “Wentworth” jigsaw last week, kindly loaned by *Jean Bennett*. The picture of Jean’s jigsaw features two ladies brawling on a drawingroom carpet,

table overturned, chairs overturned, their husbands looking on, and the caption “I did warn you that my wife was a competitive bridge player, and, after all, Caroline did revoke “



- *John and Bron* have sold their house and will leave us in August to return to England. We're happy for them, but sad for us. John has lots of family there – a brother and sister both with children and grandchildren, and many cousins. They will settle near the beautiful city of Salisbury, famous for its medieval cathedral.
- *Carol Moore and Henriette* will be missing for the next 3 weeks – they're off on another of their cruises. This time cruising up to San Francisco and then flying home. We hope they have a grand time.
- *Kay and Paul Wallbuton* did have a grand time on their recent 17-day cruise – so much so that they've booked a much bigger one for later in the year.



Out and About in Franklin

We note that the huge corner site opposite the fire station in has finally sold. More apartments?

Remember to turn your clocks BACK on Saturday night, 6th April.



May all your finesses work.
May all your slams be grand.