

# Franklin Bridge Club

## Table Talk November 2024



**We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge**

### **The Loveblock Pairs, Friday evening 15<sup>th</sup> November by 7pm for 7.15pm start**

We are still taking entries for this fun evening -- **so come along and play !!**

Write your name down on the whiteboard at the clubroom – we need to advise NZ Bridge Foundation in advance how many tables we will have playing (at time of writing we have 12 tables).

All levels are catered for, table money is \$15, of which \$10 goes to NZ Bridge Foundation. BYO bottle of wine if you wish – it's optional.

At end of play, you will get your booklet which tells you the possible contracts for every hand. We will gather for a glass of wine and some nibbles, so you can discuss the evening's hands and play (or not as the case may be!).

### **Wednesday night play**

This year's beginners have begun to play in a separate section from the main room on Wednesday nights. Some of them have decided to enter into the main group straight away, others will spend a week or two practising to do so. Thanks to Jonathan Taylor for supervising them in the first instance.

And now that Thursday night play has finished, a huge thank you again to all the experienced players who came along over many weeks to encourage and support our beginners.

### **The AGM Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

Please diary Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December for the club's Annual General Meeting. A separate notice will be sent out to all members advising details. Optional drawn-partner bridge will follow.

Back in June, we advised that NZ Bridge have increased their player affiliation levy for both the 2025 and 2026 years. This levy is charged to the club every 3 months for players who have Franklin as their registered home club. Please note that this increase is not retained by our club – it is forwarded on to NZ Bridge.

The increase in levy will be added to our subscription invoices, issued in December. The increase will be \$5 for the 2025 year and a further \$4 for 2026.

## Playing with “someone else”

You will be able to collect your new programme book for 2025 at the AGM. When booking your partners for the coming year, please consider playing with someone less experienced for a round or two. Playing with more skilled players is how our novices, juniors and intermediates learn to play better bridge.

## 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

We enjoyed helping Margaret van der Coer celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in late October. At lunchtime, we had chocolate birthday cake made by Sue Helleur and decorated with fresh fuchsias from Sue’s garden (Margaret is a past Vice President of the Fuchsia Society). Margaret, as usual, looked fabulous – one of the members said to her “Margaret you don’t look 90!”... “I’m not !”, she promptly replied, “Until Monday I’m still in my 80s”.

After Friday bridge, Margaret’s extended family took her out to dinner, she was looking forward to seeing them all, especially those who’d come from Australia, and including her 7 great-great-children, aged from 9 months to 12 years.



## An Oh No!! Moment – making a mistake in the bidding

This sometimes happens – you mean to bid 4H and by mistake pull out 4S. What can you do? (Note that this is different from just making a bid that you shouldn’t).

Obviously, you can’t get all flustered and attempt to put the 4S back and pull out the 4H. You can quickly call the director – and must do it before your partner bids !

Our thanks to Arie Geursen for the following information :

**Law 25A – Unintended Call**, exists precisely to cover this sort of situation. Mechanical errors with the bidding box (or a slip of the tongue) happen a lot and by definition have no meaning attached to them.

In summary: When you become aware that you have made a call that you never intended to make (as for example happens in pulling the wrong card from the bidding box, or a slip of the tongue, but **not** because of a loss of concentration or a change of mind), then before your partner makes a subsequent call, you can call the Director.

The Director may take you away from the table to satisfy him/herself that there was indeed no intention on your part to make the call you selected or voiced and if so, Law 25A allows you to substitute the call you intended to make for the unintended call and the auction continue with no restriction on you or your partner.

If the opponent on your left (LHO) has made a call over the unintended call before you called the Director, that may also be withdrawn. If the overcall is not repeated, the Director will then warn you that information, if any, arising from seeing the opponents withdrawn call is unauthorised to you and your partner and you must carefully avoid taking any advantage of it. This is only rarely an issue.

## **Board Hygiene and Playing cards**

Over the coming months, our plastic boards are in the process of being thoroughly cleaned to remove all the residue on them. A few test runs have been done to no detriment of the boards, so over time you should notice them looking cleaner and smelling nicer.

We have several decks of playing cards that we have circulated out of usage as they cause an issue with the dealing machine. They will be left in bundles of 2 packs on the front desk so please help yourself if you wish to have some new cards for home. They are all in perfectly good condition, however the 100% plastic cards handle the dealing machine much better.

## **Player News**

- Nice to see John and Gerda Bouwman back at the bridge table, recovering from their respective leg injuries. During October they each had a walker, John had a cast on his right leg and Gerda had a moonboot on her left leg. Be careful out there!!
- Mary Crawford, Teresa Philips, Pip Wooffindin and 2 other friends have just spent 5 days tramping on Great Barrier Island. Mary said they “managed a few hands of bridge one afternoon and evening, we roped in a fellow hut dweller for the after-dinner session”.
- We hear from Margaret Wilson, former member of our club and now living in Matamata, that one of their members has just become a Grandmaster. Sonia Crawford is 93 years old! and is the mother of Kim Crawford, the winemaker who sponsors the Loveblock Pairs.
- Our newly-90 year old Margaret van der Coer topped off her birthday celebrations by getting top score for the day, with her partner Glenda Allen – 62%. “I don’t know how we did it!” said Margaret.

## **Out and About in Franklin**

The roadworks across Paerata Road (outside the New World supermarket) are not due to be completed for another 12 months (September 2025). Upstream from the site was affected by major flooding during Cyclone Gabrielle, as the old narrow culvert channelling the Whangapouri Creek could not cope, and floodwaters backed up including wiping out the rest home in the dip in Helvetia Road.

The new works are installing a 12m long bridge across the creek, replacing the old culvert. This will allow the stream to incorporate floodwater and flow as freely as possible. Erosion protection and slope stability is also being completed downstream.

Work started recently on the traffic lights at the Bombay motorway intersection. They are not due to be ready and working until February next year – means they'll be under construction (think road cones!) right through the Christmas holidays.

There is a considerable gallery of photos on the club's gallery website.

Access the gallery from the main web page or [www.franklinbridgeclub.com/gallery](http://www.franklinbridgeclub.com/gallery)

***May all your finesses work***

***May all your slams be grand***