

Franklin Bridge Club

Table Talk May-June 2026



We promote Face to Face (F2F) Bridge

The 8B Restricted Tournament, Saturday 22nd May

15 tables entered our tournament – a bit down on last year, but still creditable in these straitened economic times. Being a restricted tournament (no two open players can play together), we had some interesting and unusual pairings. More on that in a moment...

Congratulations to our own Mary Tarbitt and Cam Gooder who won the Junior/Junior section, and Grant Jarvis who with his intermediate partner Alexandria Meyer from Akarana got 3rd place overall.



Many thanks to everyone who contributed their skills – whether technology, culinary, organisational. Special thanks to our tournament secretary Bev Henton. Our club is lucky to have so many willing and hard working members, who combine to make not just our tournaments a success, but also the day to day running of the club.

Bridge is not just a game for little old ladies !

It's interesting that the top two pairings in Saturday's tournament were all young men, both being pairings of Open + Intermediate. Chris Wilson and Sam McNae from North Shore were the overall winners and Kevin Hu and Alex Shan were second. Alex is still at high school, and is part of the bridge club at Auckland Grammar, which is mentored by Paul Coleman – our Director of the tournament. Kevin Hu originally learned bridge at MacLeans College, and our own Jonathan Taylor learned bridge at Auckland Grammar (a few years ago).

Ross Longney an intermediate player from Warkworth club wore a very smart Warriors hoodie to Saturday's event. Later in the day when it warmed up, he took it off revealing a smart Warriors polo shirt. The Editor (also playing) commented, and he said *"Yes, and I've got another layer under this, and then I've got a tattoo!"*. As he left after the day, he cried **"Up the Wahs!"** and was going home to watch the match. It must have done some good because the Warriors won 30-12.



2026 Lessons

Lessons are almost complete, and the graduates will continue with supervised play, then be launched into club nights for the Restricted Pairs series, starting Wednesday 5th August. If you are willing to play with a graduate for this series, please contact Maureen Nelson. The event following the Restricted Pairs is the annual Wednesday Social Teams, always a fun event.

Upcoming Tournament

The next tournament is the Auckland/Northland Regional Championships which is held over two full days – day one for pairs, day two for teams. We host this important regional tournament every third year and hope to fill our clubroom. Please make a note of the dates: **Saturday and Sunday, 18 and 19 July 2026**

Who's got the 4 of diamonds?

On a recent Monday night, Director was called to Table 6 -- the north player playing the contract realised that everyone else had 3 cards left to play and she only had 2. All 4 players stood up and searched the floor for the missing card ... everywhere ... nope ... strange because they'd all counted their cards at the beginning, Director established that it was the 4 of diamonds missing, and all agreed that there would have to be an adjusted score.

The next board was played, and East/West got up and moved on -- and kept on moving for the rest of the night. At the end of the night, someone said "What's that stuck to the back of your skirt?" It was the 4 of diamonds!! How did it migrate from North's hand to the back of West's skirt ??? We will never know.

Player News

- Warmest congratulations to Gerda and John Bouwman, who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this week
- Thank you to Dennise Biddick for the new bookcase, housing the jigsaws and books. And to Neil Miller and David Spencer who organised getting it to the club
- We welcome our newest member, Jenny Hassall, recently moved from Rangiora to Pukekohe. Bridge is such a great entree into a new community
- Best wishes to Henriette Annabel in her new home
- We won't see Trevor Robb for quite a while, as he's headed off on (another) round the world cruise. He's due home about the end of August
- Other members getting ready to escape the Auckland winter include the Geursens and Glenda Allen off to sunny Queensland
- Yvonne Schreurs and Lynda McKay are holidaying in Uzbekistan at the moment – Ray says he hates baching and is looking forward to Lynda coming home
- Maggie Ulrich is about to de-camp to Hahei for the winter, looking forward to seeing her Ireland-based daughter and 4 grandchildren during their summer holidays
- Pip and Gary managed another South Island game, in Geraldine, where they were warmly welcomed. Pip says they've been keeping their hands in during the evenings in their campervan, by dealing hands and practising bidding

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

