
With no bridge this week due to Govt. guidelines and QLDC's strict regulations, enjoy the latest news, views, and tips from the club, and hope to see you all next Tuesday!



Introducing our Vice President. Robbie Caldwell returned to New Zealand after several international postings as a Bank Branch Manager in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. Whilst he and Lois ran a 420-bed student hostel in Wellington, Robbie took up bridge, so he and Lois had something fun to do together. They're a competitive pair, as evidenced by Robbie claiming that the highlight of his bridge life was beating Lois in the final night of the Christmas Pairs last year. When not at bridge, Robbie keeps busy with his family, reading, writing and playing golf. Robbie's mission for his tenure as VP is reviewing and updating our Club Constitution, while helping to foster fun during club nights. He also has some sage advice to newer players:

1. Stick with it no matter how tough it gets. 2. Look for a mentor.

Friday bridge Find a partner, text Karen Jamieson on 027 600 6329 that you're coming, and join us at the Events Centre every Friday. Be seated by 12.50 pm, so play can start at 1pm!

Play better bridge Q. What do you do if your partner neglects to alert?

A. Don't make any attempt to alert your opponents until the close of the auction. If you are either dummy or declarer you should call the Director before the opening lead is made, and inform the opponents of the failure to alert.

If you are a member of the defending side, wait until the conclusion of play before summoning the Director and drawing attention to your partner's failure to alert.

Championship Pairs

Has started with a thrilling first 2 rounds. Anne and Ross are vigorously defending their title in the Silver Division with an average of 63.09%, followed by Annette and Hamish on 58.08%. Of Bronze Division is much closer, with Gaye and Vivien on 59.80% followed closely by Karen Blackler & Vicky Buckham on 59.40%.

Teams The first round saw wins for Teams Baker, Fea, Wilson and Wood. See you for the second round on Thursday, 11 March. **PS** You can make yourself a hot drink and grab a snack during the evening, and the bar opens after play.

What are your bridge odds?

Number of different hands you can receive: 635,013,559,600

Possible deals: 53,644,737,765,488,792,839,237,440,000

Possible auctions: 128,745,650,347,030,683,120,231,926,111,609,371,363,122,697,557

Thanks Ross, for supplying these interesting statistics!

Queenstown Tournament Have you registered for our annual Queenstown Open 8B tournament, in 3 weeks' time. Saturday March 20?

Extend your play Now that we can travel safely, support other clubs by entering for a tournament.

- Invercargill Club is hosting a one-day 8B Open Tournament on Saturday March 6, at their clubrooms, 50 Elles Rd, Invercargill. \$20 BYO lunch.
- Oamaru is hosting a one-day 5A Graded Pairs Tournament on Sunday March 7 at their clubrooms, corner Medway and Stuart St, Oamaru. \$25 BYO lunch.
- Wellington Club is hosting the National 15A Swiss Pairs at their clubrooms, 17 Tinakori Rd, Wellington on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 March. \$100, with lunch included both days. Enter all events at www.nzbridge.co.nz/events

Superheroes



This month it's Ernie Sutton, hardworking, and hospitable Teams Organiser, shown here solicitously hosting our final round Teams celebration last year!

All contributions to this Bulletin welcomed by email to mary_christensen@live.com