

Queenstown Bridge Club

Bridge Bulletin ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

June 2020

Welcome back to bridge! With the Events Centre off-limits during lockdown many of our enterprising members started playing online, including a lively 18-board game organized by our Vice President Chris Wood on Thursday nights.

Special thanks to Chris for keeping us connected over the last few months, every member who joined the fun, and those who helped those members who hadn't been online before to learn the ropes.

Tuesday bridge

Commenced Tuesday 16 June with twenty-five pairs playing the Snowfest pairs at the Kelvin Heights Golf Club, and will continue at that venue until further notice. Our club secretary Lynnette McLennan will keep us updated by email. Congratulations to first night winners (raw and handicap) Kristen Guthrie and Vicky Buckham.

Friday bridge

Off to a flying start with five tables June 19 at St. Johns clubrooms but will be held at the Croquet Club June 26, where \$10 table fee will include afternoon tea provided by croquet club members. Contact Karen Jamieson if you intend to play or require a partner, on 027 600 6329.

Ask the expert

Thanks Chris and Karen Wood for sending in this question: When is a card deemed to be played? In our case, declarer lifted a card from her hand, then immediately replaced it back in her hand, and played another. The card was never placed on the table. The opposition said they had seen the card and therefore it had to be played.

The Director was called and reinforced that view. Our understanding is that the rules as to when a card is deemed to have been played don't include opposition players seeing a declarer's card.

Thanks to our newest Director Gillian Macleod for this detailed response: A card is not deemed to have been played until it almost reaches the table (about 25 mm from the table). Hence the term, *tabling a card*. There is no requirement for that card to be played if it hasn't reached the table.

As there is nothing to stop declarer from tabling their whole hand if they like and playing it openly, there is no restriction on play if defenders see any or all of the declarer's cards. If a defender is confused, it may be useful to ask: "Are you playing that card?"

Winners

The last series before lockdown was the Earnslaw Pairs. Final results for the handicap series were: First Hamish Ryan/Ernie Sutton 55.74 Second: Jos Van Hees/Kristen Guthrie 55.42 Third: Jim Davies/Alistair McIlwrick 54.48

Raw Scores were: First: Hamish Ryan/Ernie Sutton 65.66% Second: Jos Van Hees/Kristen Guthrie 55.24% Third: Anna Elms/Hamish MacKenzie 56.28%

How did we spend our time during lockdown?

Guess which two of our members formed this interesting bubble....



Who kept himself busy creating this limerick?

*A bridge player from Beirut
Thought he would try to be cute
He overcalled a spade
And died as he played
The post mortem: a four-card suit!*

P.S. It was Ernie. Thanks Ernie.

Bidding tip from one of our top players

Asking the opposition what a bid means when you don't intend to bid is fraught with danger. At best you may alert the opposition to a bidding misunderstanding. At worst, you risk of being accused of passing information to your partner. If you don't intend to bid, wait until after the bidding has concluded, and ask before you lead.

Support Bridge Otago

Now that bridge is back to normal, find a partner and help support Otago clubs by registering for one of these upcoming tournaments:

- July 18 Winton Open Pairs Winton Club
- July 19 Otago Junior Pairs Dunedin Club
- August 2 Otago Swiss Pairs Dunedin Club

All contributions and questions welcomed by email to bulletin editor
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