

## Orewa Bridge Club Newsletter July 2023

Welcome All

What a dreadful winter so far! However, what a good time to be playing bridge of an afternoon or evening. It is good to see 15 - 16 tables for most daytime sessions.

Last month we had our mid-winter dinner and 65 members and partners enjoyed a delicious meal in a very pleasant social occasion that went very well. Thanks go to Caroline, Jo, Bridget, Amanda, Joanne and Cath for all their work and also to all those who helped us in the very efficient clearing up afterwards.

As you will have seen we have removed one of the disabled car parks directly in front of the entrance to the club rooms. The other space remains. This was to make egress into the building easier for members as it sometimes got a little blocked. We will, in the next few weeks, be restoring this parking space by providing 3 designated spaces where there are currently 2 on the west side of the car park. The spaces will also be marked wider than usual spaces in order to make it easier for access to and exit from vehicles.

C Points and Handicap lists are posted on the notice boards every three months. If you want to see either of these more frequently then you can, for C Points log on to your NZB page where there is an up to date total and for handicap go to your compass account and check it there. If you need some assistance in learning how to do this there are many who are able to help.

An early reminder that the AGM will be on Friday 15 September. One of the items that will be discussed is whether afternoon sessions could commence at 1pm rather than 12:30 pm. Something to think about before the meeting.

Alerting – Proper procedures, the following is a pertinent comment from Alison Beer:

Most of our club members know when they should alert their partners' bids. If any readers are in doubt there is good guidance in our Programme booklet – pages 2 & 3.

The proper procedures associated with alerting are not as well known. Too often there are improper actions. These are actions that unwittingly, but "improperly" convey information to partner.

Correct procedures:

When you alert your partner's bid you must not explain it unless you are asked to....so, If you are an opponent who wants to know the meaning of the alerted bid, you must ask the alerter – but only when it is your turn to bid.

Do NOT enquire about unalerted bids. (Say opener bids 2S unalerted. This will mean 6 spades with 6-9 hcp. If you are holding 4 or 5 spades and suspect some other meaning, you must not ask about the 2S because it alerts your partner to the probability of you holding a lot of spades).

If your partner alerts your bid but gives a wrong explanation you must not screw up your face to show it. You must wait until the first legal opportunity to draw attention to it. This is:

- o For a defender, at the end of the hand.
- o For declarer or dummy, at the end of the bidding .....when you must call the Director to explain.

The Director will decide on any adjustment deemed necessary to be fair to the opponents.

These rules may seem pedantic but some of us like to play in outside tournaments, in which enforcement may be strict. Best we practise at our club.

We will have new members who are just finishing their lessons joining us at sessions soon and, following NZB suggestions as a way to encourage newbies who feel intimidated when they first attend competitive sessions, we are going to allow these novice players to carry a 'cheat sheet' around with them from now until Christmas. Please be accommodating when they arrive at your table.

Happy Bridging  
Judith Hollyer

