

OREWA BRIDGE CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

Hi to you all, this is our first newsletter for 2019 so a big welcome back to you all. It is hard to believe that two months of the year have already flown by.

GENERAL ITEMS

Wearing your Name Badge: We have several new members in the club and we are also having lots of guests come to play, therefore wearing our badges would be very helpful to them. If you tend to forget it as I always do you are more than welcome to leave it on the board in the foyer.

Booking of Partners: There have unfortunately been several incidents of players being double booked. The person who makes the double booking is the player that should go home.

North,South/West,East: Before commencement of a bridge session every table of players must toss or draw from a set of cards. The winner of that, must sit North, South. If drawing from a card pack, the highest single card is the winner.

Housekeeping: Can you all please take more care with how you leave your table and chairs at the end of a session. Please return any mugs and glasses to the kitchen and if you have used an extra stool please put it back where you got it from.

Almoner: If you know of someone ill, in hospital, suffering a bereavement or someone needing a little card to cheer them up could you please let Kaye Main know on 427 4950 or 021 292 6680.

Phantom: If there is a need to have a phantom pair, it is to be the last person to arrive at the club.

EVENTS

St John's Ambulance: On Wednesday 3 April at 11.45 a St John's Ambulance person will be demonstrating how to use our defibrillator. Please be seated early and a **gold coin donation** would be appreciated.

Tournaments:

East Coast Bays - Combined 3A/5B on Saturday 16 March
North Shore - Swiss pairs 5A on Saturday 30 March

CARD PLAYING

The committee has nominated Alison Beer to be the Club's Adviser. Alison's role is to advise and help our players who have questions re play etiquette or players who feel they haven't been dealt a fair go for whatever reason. For instance you may not agree with a directors ruling, don't argue about it at the time, discuss it with Alison at the end of the session. If Alison is not present she is very happy to receive a phone call or an email. Phone 428 4627 or email mail@greenridge.co.nz

Please read the following articles re weak hand responses to One Club opening bids and to Psychic Bids, commonly known as "psychs" written by Alison.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Do not regret growing old. It is a privilege denied to many.



Weak hand responses to One Club opening bids:

Unless a pair is playing the Precision bidding system, or an unusual Forcing Club system, an opening bid of 1C is to be if partner has less than 6 points.

If you and your partner **have an agreement that your 1C opening can not be passed** and that you will bid 1D to mean "I have less than 6 points" then, not only must you alert your opening bid ("A forcing club"), you must also alert the 1D bid ("less than 6 points, not necessarily showing diamonds").

This is an old fashioned approach that has never been adopted by better players and is discouraged in modern bidding. Back in the 1960s and 1970s this 1D response was known as "**the diamond bust**" *but it was never a convention, just a name given to a negative response to a forcing club.*

Remember: 1C is NOT FORCING unless it is alerted as such by opener's partner. If you do not alert it and are found later to have bid 1D on a 5 or less point hand in which diamonds is not your best suit then the Director should be called. If the opponents have been prevented from reaching a normal result on the hand due to being misled by your failure to alert, then the score will be altered to one that is fair to your opponents.

Psychic Bids, commonly known as "psychs"

Definition per 2017 World Bridge Federation Laws: *a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or suit length.*

An example:

Tom Brown holds: S 6, H Q987, D KJ942, C K54. His partner is the Dealer and passes. The next person passes. **Tom now bids 1S !!! That is a psych.**

From the lack of bidding thus far, Tom expects the next person to bid will have a good hand in spades and that the opponents will have a good spade contract. He psychs to try to prevent that result.

Most people will pass with this 9 hcp hand but **Alice Green may decide to open it 1D.** That is NOT a psych. She has diamonds and she has shaded her strength – not grossly misstated it. She may even bid 1D on this 7 pointer: S 6, H T987, D KJT98, C K54. This is NOT a psych either. These two 1D bids are legitimate calls which may or may not upset Alice's partner due to their surprising lack of high card power. That is for them to work out. Their opponents may well be disgruntled but they have no grounds for calling the Director or for expecting an adjusted score.

Psychic bids are intended to mislead the opponents but, of course, Toms partner is also misled.

In our club we discourage Psychs and limit their use to no more than one per session. Further they should never be used when playing against new players.