

Orewa Bridge Club

Newsletter March 2020

Hello to everyone.

The club is in full swing with competitions. Congratulations to those who have begun the year successfully, and onwards and upwards to the rest of us, who have our good sessions and not so good sessions!

The club is running smoothly, with our only major concern being how to protect ourselves as best we can from the possibility of the coronavirus affecting our and others' lives. There is a poster on the noticeboard with information and advice, which in summary suggests we:

- *Stay home if not feeling well, have a fever or are coughing and sneezing.
- *Cough into the elbow if necessary.
- *Put any used tissues into a bin or bag immediately after use.
- *Wash hands regularly for at least 20 seconds.
- *Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- *Self isolate if have been in contact with someone who as travelled from an affected country.

Up coming events:

The club end of month Sunday afternoon tournament will be on Sunday March 29th. This is a one session tournament, followed by wine and nibbles. Well worth the \$5 entry fee!

On Saturday May 23rd we will be sending teams to the East Coast Bays Club to play in what is hoped will be an annual teams match between the two clubs. This will be an afternoon event, and will consist of 2 open teams, 2 intermediate teams and 2 junior teams. After Easter we'll be looking for those who would like to play.

Bridge Talk:

The bidding cards are being left on the table until after the lead in most cases now, which has made it much easier for the person on lead to see what bidding has occurred – and it also prevents the lead coming from the wrong hand, as it is obvious to see who is declarer. It is a good idea to enter the contract onto the tablet whilst bids are visible before play commences.

Whilst the bidding is going on please be aware that the rules state that apart from verbally indicating the strength of the no trump, or length of the club opener, nothing else should be spoken unless/ until the opposition asks. **That means if the person doesn't ask you shouldn't offer an explanation!** For example, sometimes a player opens a 2D as a natural weak bid, and their partner offers and explanation straight away. .No, No No! You should put out an alert card if required – say if that 2D bid was for a multi bid, but in both cases you should say nothing until asked.... And the only person who can ask is player whose bid is next, not their partner until it gets around to him/her.

Whilst East has the responsibility to check the scores after they have been entered on the tablet it is better if everybody checks to see if it is correct because accidents happen. If noticed immediately, it is easy to re-enter the score if all agree an error has been made. If you are checking results on the website later and you feel an error has occurred with the scoring then:

- *Check with your partner
- *If you both agree, go to the director who will check with your opponents
- *If you all agree the director will instruct the scorer to amend the score.
(The scorer can't do so without the instruction of the director)
- *This has to be done within 24 hours of the session.
- *If there is disagreement then it is the director's decision as to whether the score should be amended or not.

..... And remember Alison Beer is the person to go to if there are any queries or issues that you feel need further discussion. She is there to listen and give an expert opinion on the issue, and to explain what or why something has been done.

And, finally: A whimsical tale from a member (who wishes to remain anonymous!)

I know my secrets are safe with my friends, because at our age, they can't remember them either!!!

Please have a happy and safe Easter break - it's coming up in a very few weeks!