

September 2025 Newsletter

Hi everyone

Over six weeks since the last newsletter and September has slipped by quicker than one can say three quarters of the year done with already!

Recently we held our annual Benefit Night. Thanks to everyone who contributed in some way and through your generosity and kindness the final figure raised was **\$3470** to go towards the Domain Playground upgrade. Rose Carnachan of Project Play was thrilled with the donation and extends huge thanks and appreciation to the Matamata Bridge Club and supporters.

Mid-September we hosted the Intermediate Tournament which attracted a full house from across the region. Thanks to Broadway Motel for their sponsorship of this popular event and to all that helped to make the day a success. Click on link below and scroll to page 16 for tournament report.

<https://sceneonline.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/PDF-Complete-2.pdf>

Photos from the Intermediate Tournament of Diann Voyce flanked by winners Sue Keating & Steve Hunt of Cambridge and some of the Matamata prize winners...



Waikato Area Pairs finished up on the last day of August in Hamilton after five tournaments spread across the region, with the first held in Matamata back in March. The series was well supported by Matamata players and this was reflected in the club's success in the final results. Congratulations to Lesley Quilty & Noel Grigg for topping the WAPs ladder. Also to Sonia Crawford & Joy Williams and

Ian & Lynette Bond for coming third & fourth respectively. Michele Liddle & Eileen Barker placed second of the Non-open pairs.

Club Director Accreditation has been awarded to Deslee Howell. Congratulations on your hard work in becoming a qualified Club Director. Deslee is now easily recognisable in her new bespoke director's '4Rs' t-shirt! Also thanks to Anne Watts for her continuing efforts in the directing space. Please support and respect all of our club directors as they fulfil an integral role within the club. And maybe give consideration to learning the process too?

Learner and improvers lessons. We are very pleased to welcome ten new members to the club on the back of Alan's lessons. This is testament to Alan and his team of aide's commitment in helping this new group in their learning endeavours and introduction to bridge. Wednesday evening classes through October and November will now be combined with improver lessons & hands for anyone else looking to brush up on and practise their card play.

Also attached, for anyone interested, is a flyer advising of online lessons currently being provided by NZ Bridge for Intermediate and experienced players.

And on the subject of new members we welcome Grant James to the Matamata Club. Grant is a member of the Morrinsville Club whose regular club nights are Tuesdays. Grant is introducing a Wednesday evening session once a month every second Wednesday of the month commencing 8th October. So if you're looking for some bridge this coming Wednesday night, get a car load together and head over to Morrinsville. \$4 table money and please be seated by 6.45pm. Any queries contact Grant directly 021 1499 490.

Upcoming...

Our last tournament of the year is the **Bug Squad Swiss Pairs on 11th October** and it'll be a tight fit as we squeeze twenty tables into the clubrooms. If you can help with a raffle prize donation and/or in the kitchen on the day please let us know.

Loveblock NZ Wide Pairs is being held in **Te Aroha** this year on **Friday evening 17th October**. Entry is \$15 and enter online at NZ Bridge. Get a car load together for a night of bridge and compare your hands afterward with supplied play notes for each deal. Flyer attached.

2025 NZ Bridge Congress has moved to Palmerston North and commences the week starting Saturday 8th November. Flyer attached and all info on NZ Bridge website for a full week's packed programme of bridge at all levels. Good luck to our members taking part.

Club Teams run over three consecutive weeks starting Thursday evening 23rd October. Play with each team mate over the three weeks as you take on other teams. Get a foursome together and enter your names on the whiteboard at the club **asap** or let me know please. Also let me know if you're available and need a team mate and/or if you're only available on certain nights as we will probably need fill-ins.

There are a number of attachments to this newsletter fyi.

Nothing new, but included is a reminder of the expected behaviour at our bridge club as perhaps some of the standards have been slipping a little of late. For the enjoyment of all, it is incumbent upon us all to foster a pleasant and welcoming playing environment within the club.

Cheers

Colin

Kathy's Corner

NS Pair	EW pair	NSEW	NS MP	EW MP	Contr	By	Made	Lead
9	10	90	12.0	0.0	2♦	W	8	♣8
14	3	130	10.0	2.0	2♦	W	10	♣5
11	12	140	8.0	4.0	2♣	W	9	♥3
5	7	150	4.0	8.0	2♦	W	11	♣3
13	8	150	4.0	8.0	2♥	N	5	♦K
6	2	150	4.0	8.0	2♥	S	5	♦A
1	4	580	0.0	12.0	2♦X	W	10	♣A

Hand record		Result stats
Board 9	♠A9	?
Dir: N	♥A863	
Vul: E-W	♦53	
	♣KJ983	
♠KJ86	♠T74	
♥Q94	♥KT5	
♦AJT942	♦K7	
♣	♣AQT54	
12	♠Q532	N:
11 12	♥J72	S:
5	♦Q86	E: 2♣4♦3♥4♠5NT
	♣762	W: 2♣4♦3♥4♠5NT

This is a hand that was played at the club recently. North is the dealer and opened 1 club. East can do nothing but pass and South will probably pass. What should West do? Double is probably best as they have quite a good hand and can support both Major suits. At our Table West bid 2 Diamonds, showing a good intermediate hand with 6+ diamonds. Either way, having passed over 1 club, 3NT is the best place to be.

If West doubled, East should not leave 1 club in for penalties because of the vulnerability on the hand. N/S are not vulnerable while E/W are. The score for 3 off not vulnerable is 500 and the score for 3NT making is 600. East cannot be certain of taking North 4 off so should bid the almost certain 3NT game.

When I played this hand, I was South (West opted to bid 2D) and at the end of the hand, East asked what they should have done. Obviously, there were many Easts who felt they had the same problem.

East's hand looks quite good for 3NT when partner shows 11-15 points and 6 diamonds. They have the King of diamonds which suggests 6 tricks in diamonds, a double stop in clubs and the king of hearts. Partner can only have 7 points in diamonds at the most so they must have something in hearts or spades. There is no clever way to bid 3NT here. Just bid it and hope.