



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

crockfordsbridge@gmail.com

Newsletter

Tuesday, 19 September 2023

Dear Members,

I am hoping, with the warmer temperatures of late, that the bugs that have plagued a number of us in recent weeks have been put behind us and we can return to playing bridge.

While we are enjoying spring, David Hawes, our President, and his partner, Diane, are enjoying the colours of autumn in the States for a month.

We welcome Jan and Steve Barrow back from their holiday in Europe later this week. Jan has already put her hand up to oversee the kitchen for our Nola Mather Trophy tournament on Friday night.



Upcoming Events reminder:

September

Friday 22nd

The Nola Mather Trophy - In-House Tournament.

Sunday 24th

Improver Lesson – Defending, how to get the most tricks in defence.

October

Sunday 8th

Crockfords 5A/B Intermediate/Open Pairs Tournament.

Friday 13th

Teams Night.

Thursday 19th

Requests for Grade Promotion due to the office.

Friday 29th

Quiz night – Fundraiser. *Save the date more information coming.*

December

Sunday 2nd

Canterbury Charity Pairs – Morning and whole day sessions being held. All profit will go to the Canterbury Charity Hospital.

Nola Mather Trophy Tournament:

Nola Mather was a past President of our club and it would be great to see a wide representation from all grades playing on Friday 22 September. Play will begin at 7.00pm so please be seated by 6.50pm at the latest. The cost is \$10.00. Entries close on Wednesday this week.

This year, for the first time, we thank Summerset Retirement Village in Prebbleton for providing the supper. This means players do not need to bring a plate.

Prizes will be allocated in different sections if numbers justify it.

Increase in Office Hours:

Last month the Committee was pleased that it was given a grant of \$5,000.00 from the NZCT towards paying staff wages and some of this is being used to increase the hours of our Office Administrator, Petra, in the busy weeks leading through until the Christmas close down.

From now until Christmas, the office will be open during the following hours:

- Monday: 9.30am – 11.00am
(except for a Monday each month, or other commitments require, this will be communicated each month)
- Tuesday: 9.30am – 1.30pm
- Wednesday: 9.30am – 1.00pm
- Thursday: 9.30am – 1.30pm

Improver Lessons:

The lesson on Sunday 24 September from 2.00 – 4.00pm is NZ Bridge Lesson 8 on DEFENDING.

The lesson will be taken by Senior Grade player, Richard Williams, who took an excellent lesson last time on Signals and Discards.

Richard pointed out that you may be Declarer 25% of the time and Dummy 25% of the time but you and your partner are likely to be defending 50% or more of the time. This week's lesson gives you more strategies for gaining those valuable tricks, and maybe taking your opponents down, when you are defending.

The cost of the lesson is \$5.00 and it is open to players from all grades.

Supporting Our Sponsors:

A longstanding sponsor of Crockfords is Investment Advisor, Michael Staples, of Forsyth Barr. We want to take this opportunity to thank him sincerely for his support.



Forsyth Barr has a team of experienced Investment Advisers throughout New Zealand, delivering comprehensive, research-based investment advice. Since 1936, the company has been proudly New Zealand and staff-owned, and today is one of New Zealand's largest wealth management firms.

Michael believes it is Forsyth Barr's independence, expertise and single-minded focus on client success that delivers the best possible outcomes for clients.

Feel free to contact him to discuss your investment needs. His contact details are:

M: 021 279 9184

P: (03) 363 1405

TF: 0800 367 227

Email: michael.staples@forsythbarr.co.nz

Heating:

The Committee was very relieved that it had invested in new heating for the Annex when our main room heating went down last week. It was also grateful that we were into spring and the weather was not as cold as it could have been. Rob Freeman was promptly onto our heating repair company and we are looking forward to full heating being restored on Tuesday this week. We apologise to anyone who was inconvenienced by the system being down.

Working Bee:

Thank you to Rob Freeman who hired the necessary equipment and organised the working bee that was held at the club rooms on Saturday 16 September. Unfortunately only two people turned up to help Rob, but a big thank you to Judy Van Leeuwen and Roger Palmer. Thanks to the three of them, we will all be able to enjoy cleaner windows, inside and outside the club rooms. Again, a big thanks from all of us to Judy, Roger and Rob.

Grade Promotions:

In October, the Match Committee will look at players who are eligible for promotion to a higher grade for next year.

The Crockfords' Promotion and Regrading Policy is covered on Pages 6 – 8 of the 2023 Programme Booklet.

If you are interested in being considered for regrading, please put the request in an email to the office, marked *Attention Match Committee* by **Thursday 19 October**.

Email: crockfordsbridge@gmail.com

Weekly Results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to Phillippa Borlase (S) and Brian Papps (S) last week on 68.54% and to Terry Ellis (SR) and Brian Southern (SR) the previous week on 66.92%.

Well done!

Teams Night – Friday 8 September:

The Committee is sorry that, because of the large number of teams at our last Teams Night, there were insufficient computer licences and some boards had to be scored manually, which added to Luisa's workload.

We are currently addressing the issue so we can assure everyone that this will not happen in future.

An enormous thank you to Luisa for the time, energy and passion she puts into promoting, organising and directing our Teams Nights.

A report on the Teams Night from Luisa McNabb:

This was a great night for the club as we filled both rooms with a massive 24 teams, 96 players!

Thank you to all who helped; Sandra Sidaway in the kitchen, Rob Freeman in the bar and collecting and balancing the money and Jill Legg, who helped Rob and also assisted greatly in the room.

We had some last minute pullouts, so help from our reserves; Kaye Godfrey, Bridget Adams, Kirsten Nissen and also a pair from Christchurch Club, was much appreciated.

We even had a player who came all the way from Amberley, an hour's drive each way, and at one table there were three Kathleens!

I am happy to report that, although the Crockfords players were only a third of the total players, they were winners in both sections overall! Congratulations to the winners:

SECTION 1

Crockfords: 'The Goers'

Phillippa Borlase, Peter van Leeuwen

Pam Rundle, Cath Stowell

SECTION 2

Crockfords: 'Whiskey Tango Foxtrot'

Katie Ellis, Terry Ellis

Felix Finlayson-Hood, Rachel Wells

Section 1 winners:



Section 2 winners:



FROM THE OFFICE

- Awesome outcome re extending the office hours. There will be monthly notice of which Mondays for the month the office will be manned, to eliminate any confusion.
- Please note, if you are the last group/person to leave the Club, that it is vital to set the alarm, as it is an insurance requirement if there is a break in. As a Club, we get billed for a call out, when the alarm is not set. Many thanks.

Happy bridging and kind regards to you all.

Sandra Sidaway
Vice President