



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

crockfordsbridge@gmail.com

Newsletter

Tuesday 25 June 2024

Dear members,

It is hard to find words for a leading paragraph in this newsletter after such a memorable celebration of our club's 90th anniversary. The Nola Mather Anniversary pairs tournament on the Friday night was the perfect start to the celebration. The Bridge playing was much enjoyed by everyone and we gathered around a beautifully presented supper including a birthday cake. The following Saturday night was the time to acknowledge the rich history that forms the background to what we are as a club today and to celebrate the people who over long periods of time have contributed as playing members and to the running of the club.

We are getting well into the winter months and it is a good time to put some time aside to upskill our Bridge playing techniques. You will find a calendar of lessons described in more detail below and we hope to see these lessons well supported.

Importantly, and to the benefit of the Fun Teams night and tournaments, the club has been expanding the playing capacity: additional card holders have been purchased, 17 new tablets have been added to our register (total number to 50 tablets), and work has been in progress to upgrade our charging system.

Overview of upcoming events:

July

Sunday 7 th	Advanced Improver Lesson
Friday 12 th	Friday Fun Teams night
Friday 19 th	Advanced Improver Lesson
Sunday 21 st	Crockfords All Grades Pairs

August

Friday 2 nd	Advanced Improver Lesson
Monday 5 th	Start of Beginner Lessons
Friday 9 th	Friday Fun Teams night
Sunday 18 th	Advanced Improved Lesson
Friday 23 rd	Advanced Improver Lesson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Training opportunities:

Beginner Lessons:

These provide many of the new players coming into our club and we are pleased that ten of our February 2024 class have joined our Junior Grade and we extend a warm welcome to them.

Unfortunately, the Wednesday afternoon classes, that were due to start on June 5, were cancelled because of the small number of enrolments.

Our next Beginner Lessons are scheduled, with Nick Mein, for Monday 5 August. We are really keen that these do not have to be cancelled as well, so please promote them to friends, families, colleagues etc. They can enquire or enrol by contacting our office. Please take flyers from the Director's Desk for anyone that you think might be interested.

Advanced Improver Lessons:

For the last three years, in the middle of the year, we have held Sunday afternoon lessons, based on *NZ Bridge Improver Lessons*, aimed mainly at Junior and Intermediate players.

This year, it has been suggested that we run *NZ Bridge Intermediate Lessons*, aimed mainly at Senior, Senior Reserve and experienced Intermediate players.

A recent survey of Senior Reserve and some Senior players has shown an almost equal number wanting them on a Friday night to those wanting them on a Sunday afternoon. Consequently, we are running four on a Friday night and five on a Sunday afternoon, when the club rooms are available. A final confirmation of these will be sent out when tutors are confirmed. The cost will be \$5 per lesson. Lessons will start at 7.00pm on a Friday and 2.00pm on a Sunday. They will run for two hours; one hour of lesson and one hour of play.

A full list of the dates and topics are listed below, so you can put them in your diary:

Sunday 7 July – NZB Lesson 1 – Transfers

Friday 19 July – NZB Lesson 4 – Combatting opponent's interference over our 1NT bid

Friday 2 August – NZB Lesson 5 – Competing over opponent's 1NT opening bid

Sunday 18 August – NZB Lesson 6 – Competitive Bidding, when we open the bidding

Friday 23 August – NZB Lesson 7 – Competitive bidding, when we overcall

Sunday 1 September – NZB Lesson 8 – Michaels Cue Bid and Unusual 2NT overcalls

Sunday 22 September – NZB Lesson 9 – High Level Bidding

Friday 4 October – NZB Lesson 10 – Defence against opponent's Pre-emptive Opening Bids

Sunday 20 October – NZB Lesson 13 – Splinters and Roman Key Card Blackwood.

Any questions, please contact: Sandra Ph. 021 229 8961 or Sandra.sidaway23@gmail.com

Friday Fun Teams night 12 July:

As usual, Luisa will send out an email reminder for registering your interest in participating in the July Fun Teams night.

Friday Fun Teams night have been of enormous benefit to all members in our club. They have given players an opportunity to play a different form of competition and to play with other bridge players from across Christchurch and beyond.

From their revenue, they have also given **all members** the benefits of a much improved heating system with the purchase of three new heat pumps and improved tablets with the purchase of seventeen new tablets.

However, each of these nights needs four or five members to work behind the scenes; in the bar, in the kitchen, collecting money and distributing playing boards. Increasingly this has fallen on the same few volunteers. We would like to see this load spread more evenly across our membership and so are asking those, who have not previously helped, to put their hand up to do ONE NIGHT between now and the end of the year, from 6.30pm.

The dates we require people are:

Friday 12 July

Friday 13 September

Friday 8 November

Friday 9 August

Friday 11 October

Please put your name on the sheet in the foyer with the date and task you are able to assist with. Many thanks in anticipation, Sandra Sidaway. Vice President.

Crockfords All Grades Pairs Sunday 21 July 2024:

This is an open grade tournament for the Canterbury Region. We hope that many Crockfords players are able to play in the tournament and you can register your pair on the NZ Bridge website. <http://www.nzbridge.co.nz>

OTHER NEWS

Grade promotions:

A recent review of results has been carried out by the Match Committee and several players will receive emails in the next week notifying them of a grade promotion. Thank you to Beverley Parlane for her leadership in this area.

Usually, grade promotions are done at the end of the year, but if you are interested in being considered for regrading, please send your request to the office in writing. You are reminded that the criteria for promotion are outlined on Page 7 and Page 8 of the Match Programme booklet.

2024 club survey:

A club survey has been finalised and it will go to members from 1 July onwards. It will be delivered to members during grade sessions, electronically by email, and to remaining non-respondents by post.

Information gathered from the last survey in 2019 and the new survey will provide the necessary background to discussions on future strategic directions. We hope to get responses from a large proportion of our members.

FROM PAST EVENTS



90th Anniversary celebration:

It was wonderful to see our main room transformed into a festive setting where we enjoyed a beautiful dinner and each other's company. The presentation of the club's history was very enlightening to us all.

A special thank you goes out to the team of Junior and Intermediate members who helped serving the dinner and provided the necessary support in the kitchen. This was done at a very high professional standard – thank you!

Nola Mather 90th Anniversary Pairs results:



It was wonderful to have 38 pairs participating in the Nola Mather 90th Anniversary Pairs tournament on Friday 21 June.

Congratulations to Paul Ainsworth and Tony Crow who won the Nola Mather Trophy. In the photo, Paul and Tony are standing next to Nola's two daughters Phillippa Borlase and Sue Moates – both well-known members of our club.

Fun Teams Night results – June:

Another enjoyable evening with a very good turnout of 44 Crockfords members - exactly half of the 88 attendees (22 teams). As always, a big thank you to those helping behind the scenes: our kitchen helpers and others helping on the floor.

The winning teams were:

GREEN SECTION:

(ChCh Club)
Pam Tibble
Kelvin Tibble
Sue Southern
Ian Southern

RED SECTION:

(ChCh / Mt Pleasant / Crockfords Clubs)
Nick Mein
Debbie Mein
Lucy Cartwright
Chrissie Cope

Weekly results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to Aidan Johnstone and Ann Tait who scored 66.54% (SR) in the week starting 10 June, and to Cynthia and Warren Kepple (Int) who scored 73.33% in the week starting 17 June.

FROM THE OFFICE

- Please take the initiative to keep yourself informed with new information on the noticeboards in the foyer, re upcoming tournaments, general information, and club notices.
- Thank you for the attendance and involvement during the weekend's celebrations.

Sponsor feature:



We would like to acknowledge and thank **Purnell Creighton Lawyers** for kindly becoming a new sponsor of Crockfords this year. The firm, founded in 1919, has a longstanding expertise in property conveyancing, commercial law, estates and trusts, and in addition offers specialist services in family law, employment, insurance and civil litigation.

Many of you will know Tim Twomey, one of our intermediate players, who is a senior partner of the firm, with 35 years' experience. If you or someone you know is requiring legal advice: **Contact:** Tim tjtwomey@purnellcreighton.co.nz, or **Phone** 379-0430. **Where:** Level 1, 35 Leslie Hill Drive in Riccarton, with dedicated off-street parking. Thanks again, Tim and your team, for supporting our club

On behalf of the committee, happy bridging and kind regards to you all.

Kirsten Nissen
President