



CROCKFORDS BRIDGE CLUB INC.

crockfordsbridge@gmail.com

Newsletter

Tuesday 6 August 2024

Dear members,

The Committee discussed the Crockfords survey results at a workshop last Friday. Based on a summary of the results, as presented in this newsletter, we have prepared a number of action points that will be prioritised in the near future. As we are working through the different topics outcomes of the action points will be shared in upcoming newsletters. Any comments or questions with regard to the survey responses are always welcome.

It is great to welcome ten people to our beginner lessons who have started their series of lessons with Nick Main this week. Thank you for recommending these lessons to your friends.

We are looking forward to the August Fun Teams night on Friday and we have started preparations for the Kevin Hickman Spring Luncheon tournament on the last Thursday of the month.

Overview of upcoming events:

August

Friday 9 th	Friday Fun Teams night
Sunday 18 th	Advanced Improver Lesson
Friday 23 rd	Advanced Improver Lesson
Thursday 29 th	The Kevin Hickman Retirement Village Spring Luncheon Tournament

September

Sunday 8 th	Advanced Improver Lesson
Sunday 22 nd	Advanced Improver Lesson
Friday 27 th	The Russley Village Maples Tournament

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday Fun Teams night 9 August:

This is a last reminder for registering your interest in participating in the Fun Teams night on Friday 9 August (lucy.mini@hotmail.com or text 021 126 0922). Again, later in the week we will be aiming to finalise the teams and ensuring we have an even number of teams in each section. However, in case of shortage of players on the day, we will need to have a list of stand-by players who can at short notice make themselves available to play. Usually, we will contact members as a reminder of the help needed for the Fun Teams night to be a successful event.

Kevin Hickman Retirement Village Spring Luncheon Tournament
~ Thursday 29 August from 11:30am:

You are all invited to join us for our annual SPRING LUNCHEON Open Play, All Grades, this year kindly sponsored by Kevin Hickman Retirement Village, and catering done by Kate MacRae Catering.

When: Thursday, 29 August 2024

Times: Bar open from 11.30am

Lunch 12 .00 noon

Duplicate Bridge 1.00pm

Lunch & Table Fees: \$35.00 per person (Table fee: \$10pp)

Closing Date: **Monday, 26 August 2024**



Entries: Club notice board, phone 348-7478, or email crockfordsbridge@gmail.com

Please include registration of lunch and/or Bridge

Please pay on-line: 03 1705 0426022 00 or cash at the Club Office - **Monday, 26 Aug 2024**

Please advise if seating rights are required.

Training opportunities:

Advanced Improver Lessons:

This year, we run *NZ Bridge Intermediate Lessons*, aimed mainly at Senior, Senior Reserve and experienced Intermediate players. We alternate lessons Friday night and Sunday afternoon, when the club rooms are available. The cost is \$5 per lesson, and 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.

The remaining dates and topics are listed below:

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

Sunday 22 September – NZB Lesson 9 – High Level Bidding

Friday 11 October – NZB Lesson 10 – Defence against opponent's Pre-emptive Opening Bids

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

An email from Crockfords on 4 July 2024 confirmed the dates as well as the tutors running the lessons. Any questions, please contact: Sandra Ph. 021 229 8961 or

Sandra.sidaway23@gmail.com

OTHER NEWS

Christchurch Mid-Winter Teams Tournament:

The Christchurch Bridge Club hosted their Mid-Winter Teams tournament on 27 July and two of our senior players achieved very good results. Phillipa Borlase was in the top Inter Team and Peter van Leeuwen was in the second team.

About the Crockfords survey:

The overall survey response rate is 42 percent, or 109 out of 260 members. We are very grateful for the feedback we have received, and overall, we see it as a satisfactory response level. The results are summarised as follows.

- *About one third of our members will usually play two or more sessions per week.*
- *Almost one quarter of total responses belonged to another club, and they were likely to play at the other club in one session per week.*
- *About half of respondents offered their expertise and experience in support of club tasks and duties.*
- *There is some interest, slightly above one third of responses, in attending a daytime session (open/ mixed grade) on any weekday. We have one scheduled open/mixed grade session (Thursday afternoon). There is an opportunity to investigate the option among interested members and the wider Bridge playing community.*
- *Nearly three-quarters of members use their own car for transport. However, there is significant interest shown in support of carpooling.*
- *There are many members using multiple communication channels. Newsletters and email communications are the most preferred.*
- *A fortnightly newsletter is the clear preference, with no reason to change the frequency.*
- *There is a high level of satisfaction with the current content of the newsletter. While that does not preclude adding additional information into it (such as more photos and sponsor profiles) the core components are correct for the audience.*
- *A majority of members are visiting the website after they play, which for most members is once a week and for some twice a week.*
- *A clear majority of members are visiting the website primarily for results.*
- *While most people surveyed did not support creating a members' portal, if the 'don't know' and 'maybe' are added to the 'yes' responses it's an even split.*
- *There is little support for using social media to communicate with members.*

Photographer(s) wanted:

The Committee is progressing work on a review and update of our website, with the support of a website developer. While the current website content will remain unchanged, we are keen to include updates to photographic presentations of our facility and to include portraits of our contacts. A photo gallery on the new website will also provide ongoing opportunities to upload photographic displays from regular sessions, tournaments and social activities.

We are keen to hear from members with photographic experience who can help us. Further enquiry and contact: Kirsten (k.nissen.nz@gmail.com or 021 078 8774).

FROM PAST EVENTS

Rangiora Exchange Tournament Sunday 4 August:

It was wonderful to be hosting the Rangiora vs Crockfords Trophy Match on Sunday afternoon, 4 August 2024. With an even split of Rangiora and Crockfords members across the 30 pairs, the Crockfords group achieved overall a higher score.

Weekly results:

Congratulations for top weekly percentage points to Kate Gidlow-Black and Judy van Leeuwen who scored 63.49% (SR) in the week starting 22 July, and to Helen Wood and Heather Robinson (SR) who scored 64.88% in the Thursday night ad hoc session in the week starting 29 July.

FROM THE OFFICE

- *Spring Luncheon:* Thank you to those who already registered for the Spring Luncheon. When you register by email, please indicate if you are requesting the lunch as well.
- *Notice Board:* Please utilise the notice board with upcoming events hosted by other clubs in Christchurch and beyond.
- There are *suggestion forms* in the foyer. Please feel free to use this if you have any suggestions or recommendations. This is your club and we appreciate your input.
- *Evacuation Procedures:* Please familiarise yourself with Crockford's evacuation procedures. A trial evacuation was done on Monday, 5 Aug 2024 – thank you for your participation. Let's hope that a trial is all we need to do.
- *Heating:* Please note that the heaters are all set on a timer. If a system has been switched on, ie in the Annex, please ensure that you switch it off, otherwise it will run during the night.
- *Car Parks:* Please remember that the first 4 car parks, closest to Riccarton Road, are leased to the hairdressers. Please refrain from using these spots.

Sponsor feature:



We are very grateful to Whittle Knight for its on-going sponsorship of Crockfords.

Founded in 1966, Whittle Knight is a family-owned Christchurch real estate company that has proudly led the way in providing Canterbury homeowners with an individual and outstanding quality of service in property sales, residential rentals and property management, commercial sales and leasing, and valuations.

For many years the company has also enjoyed close links and associations within the wider community. Whittle Knight is a motivated team of professionals whom you can trust for their reliability and knowledge.

For further information, contact Jo Williams on 348 4149, email jo@whittleknight.co.nz, or check their website at www.whittleknight.co.nz.

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

Kirsten Nissen
President