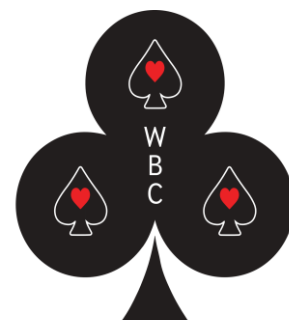


Warkworth Bridge Club

## Newsletter –

## May 2026

Welcome to our latest newsletter – the newsletter to keep you up to date with events, competitions and people at the Warkworth Bridge Club. Many thanks to those who have contributed to this newsletter. A special welcome to those of you completing lessons shortly – we look forward to welcoming you at our regular sessions.



**OUR CLUB**  
WITH HEARTS IN SPADES

**Coming Up at the Club:** - Please remember to be seated at least 10 mins before play starts.

- Mondays –** Drawn Pairs – June 1<sup>st</sup>  
Mahu Pairs – June 8, 15, 22, and 29<sup>th</sup>  
Pakiri Competition – July 6, 13, and 20<sup>th</sup>  
Improver Lesson – Blackwood July 27<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesdays –** Rita Collie Trophy continues – June 2, and 9<sup>th</sup>  
Rodney Pairs – June 16, 23, and 30<sup>th</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup>  
Wellsford Pairs – July 14, 21, and 28<sup>th</sup>, Aug 4<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesdays –** Singles Competition – June 10, 17, and 24<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>  
Brunei Trophy – July 8, 15, 22, and 29<sup>th</sup>  
Zurich Pairs – Aug 5, 12, and 19<sup>th</sup>
- Thursdays -** Lessons and Practice evening – no partner required
- Fridays Online –** June Pairs – June 5, 12 and 26<sup>th</sup> (Interclub 19<sup>th</sup>)  
July Pairs – July 3, 10, 17 and 31<sup>st</sup> (Interclub 24<sup>th</sup>)

Our partner stewards are very helpful in finding a partner if required. Contact Jeanette for Mondays, Vanessa for Tuesdays, Trudy for Wednesdays, Lynley for Fridays - contact details in our bridge book. You can turn up to a Monday evening without a partner, and one will be organised on the night.

**Congratulations** Recent results from Club events are as follows:

- Monday:** Kawau Competition – Arthur Waddell & Gavin Elliot  
Singles Competition – Michael Whaley  
Omaha Competition – Sarah Haydon and Libbt Jensen
- Tuesday:** Warkworth Pairs – Celia Knighton & David Knighton  
Singles Competition – Lynley Lewington  
Garnett Pairs – Ross Longney & Graeme Duhs
- Wednesday:** Championship Pairs – Steve Moore & Ross Longney  
Rees Trophy – Diane Carrol & Shona Duncan
- Friday:** March Pairs – Sue & Stan (Greymouth)  
April Pairs - Sue and Stan (Greymouth)

Congratulations to the winners and to all those who participated.  
Great to see more players completing all series this year at all sessions.

## Committee Corner

### Survey

The survey is now closed – we have had an amazing response –87 responses from our 111 members – thank you to everyone who has participated. Once we have had a chance to digest the feedback, we will report back.

### Health & Safety

You may have noticed a few things have changed or been added around the club rooms. We all have a responsibility to take care of ourselves and others, but as leaseholder of an Auckland Council owned facility, we must take their responsibilities under health and safety legislation into account in the way the facility is run – *to keep people safe*. So - what have we done and what are we doing?

- Updated our policy and risk register; key information can be found on the noticeboard
- Improved the first aid kit and located it in the clubroom on the top library shelf – so it's available any time the facility is open
- Obtained emergency contact details for members that can be accessed during a bridge session. More than half of you haven't told us yet.... please drop us an email with the name, contact number and relationship of your preferred contact person in the event of an emergency
- There is a trained Emergency Warden on each session who will take the lead if we have a fire or serious medical emergency. They also check out the club rooms for any hazards before the start of every session.
- Cleared out "stuff" that we don't need
- Developed new hire agreements for the other club room users making their responsibilities clear
- Reminded the Council about the long-standing issue of the steps down from the back door, our biggest hazard ... we would rather you didn't use them at all, but if you do, please take care!

### Facility update

- All our black (soft top) tables have been repaired and re-covered (well done Kathryn!). These are now mostly stored for tournament use when we need more tables.
- All the white (hard top) tables have been lowered to the same standard card playing height and these are the ones that have been in use now for a few weeks. Thanks to Ray (Haydon) and Kathryn for their work on the tables.
- All lights have been replaced with LED lights (lower lumens). This eliminates the buzzing fluorescent tubes, and reduces power consumption, brightness and glare.
- Small plates have been purchased eliminating the need for paper plates

**Shared document for Directors, dealers, Scorers and Housekeeping** – we have sent out a reminder for the shared document as there are a few gaps in the coming months – if you can assist, please enter your name against some dates. Julie Snowsill is coordinating this spreadsheet – please contact her if you have any queries. Many thanks to those who have entered their name in the sheet – we look to keep the next 3 months filled.

**Facebook** – Don't forget to join our Facebook group (Warkworth Bridge Club) so it can be used more to promote events and help find partners. There is a weekly post about what is coming

up at the club and any club news plus members are welcome to post any bridge news or if looking for partners.

**The Bridge Zone** - This is on Free FM89 – weekly on Wednesday afternoon, but you can listen at any time. Ross Longney has a regular spot as The JIN Man – JIN for Junior, Intermediate and Novice. Some interesting tips and bridge information.

### **Director's Corner**

Many of you will have noticed we have been including a Director's tip as part of the notices before some sessions. Often these are things that we all are aware of but may have slipped our mind. Below is a summary of some of the tips as some find it easier to read than think about it before sessions. Moving forward we are looking to do this on an ad hoc basis as things crop up and not an every session event.

#### **- Alerting:**

It is an essential principle of bridge that you may not have undisclosed agreements with your partner. The principle should be to disclose, not as little as you must, but as much as you can and as comprehensively as you can. Some bids do not need to be alerted: eg 2C Stayman after 1NT and the Game Force 2C opening bid and the 2D response. Cue bids of the oppositions suit and doubles are self-alerting.

Any other conventional calls must be alerted:

Just naming the convention is not enough. Eg Landy there are many systems and point counts, and you should define yours.

A natural bid that has additional meaning should also be alerted. Eg that suit and another.

Or a "super accept" of a transfer bid where bidding at the 2-level shows a weak hand and bidding at the 3 level shows a stronger hand. Both are natural but there is additional info the opposition are entitled to know.

So in general, if your bid gives any extra information to your partner, it needs to be alerted by your partner, so that if they want to know, your opposition can have the same information.

To Alert a bid - Circle your partner's bid and say the word "Alert". Do not say anything else without being asked! The opponents have the right to ask what the bid means only when it is their turn to bid.

If your partner does not alert a bid, or correctly alerts a bid, you are a statue! (Suggest eyes down & not looking at your partner). You do not make any signal to the effect that they should alert the bid or should have remembered something. Opponents should think carefully about whether to ask what does the bid mean. You may be waking someone up to the fact that a bid should have been alerted. If a bid was not alerted and should have been then the opposition should be told. But when? Partners failure to alert is the same as a mistaken explanation. You must call the Director and inform your opponents at the first legal opportunity: - for a defender this is at the end of play and for a declarer this is after the final pass of the auction and before the opening lead.

#### **- Insufficient Bids:**

When an insufficient bid is made (by the person who's turn it is to bid), the first option is not to correct the bid. The Director should be called and the Left-Hand Opposition gets asked whether they accept the bid. The LHO might see an advantage in accepting the insufficient bid.

#### **- Bridge Tip**

When defending against a slam contract in a suit – lead trumps. This way the declarer does not know which suit you might think you can win a trick (or 2!) – picked up from the Julie Atkinson lesson in March – put into practice and it has worked!

## **Interclub Tournaments**

Auckland/Northland Region Interclub competition is well under way, and 3 rounds have been played – we have 2 Intermediate Teams and 1 Junior team. This is a very enjoyable and competitive event played over 9 months online on a Friday evening with teams from Auckland and other regions participating. Our Junior team is currently 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Junior competition, Intermediate Mahu 3<sup>rd</sup> and Intermediate Mata 8<sup>th</sup> in the Intermediate section. Go Well Warkworth!

## **Tournaments**

Most weekends one of the Auckland based clubs hosts a tournament and we have a small group of members who regularly play in these tournaments. Tournament play is fun, enjoyable, sociable, and a challenge of bridge skills. The more one plays bridge the more one learns and skills improve. Recently we had our best representation at a tournament, at East Coast Bays Club where 6 of our Intermediate and 3 of our junior members played. We encourage more of our members to play more bridge and think about playing in a tournament.

## **North Harbour Teams Challenge**

Each year the North Harbour Clubs: North Shore, East Coast Bays, Orewa, Hibiscus Coast, Warkworth, and Mangawhai compete in a Teams Challenge. Each club selects Mixed (only one Open player per pair), Intermediate, and Junior teams of 4 players who play 6 boards against the other 5 clubs. Warkworth won the challenge in 2024 and was very competitive last year. Each club hosts the competition in turn and this year's challenge is at East Coast Bays Club on 1<sup>st</sup> August starting at 12.30pm with refreshments served at the end of play. If you are interested in playing, please email Graeme Duhs (graeme.duhs@gmail.com) and our teams will be finalised mid-July.

## **Auckland Regional Bridge News**

The Auckland Northland Regional Committee produces a monthly newsletter. This contains information on the bigger picture in the bridge world. Stories from our clubs across the region, information on activities and training available and expert discussion on hands. Every member of an affiliated club is entitled to receive the newsletter. It is free of charge. If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter subscribe here.

Click [here](#) to subscribe

## **2026 Bridge Lessons**

The Thursday Beginner Lessons are ending shortly with a “graduation” on 18<sup>th</sup> June. Thursday evenings will then continue with Tips or an Improver lesson and a smaller number of boards. There will be no masterpoints awarded for Thursday evening sessions played at a slower pace with plenty of time for discussion and learning.

NZB are running Online Supported Play sessions every Sunday 4pm – 6pm from 7<sup>th</sup> June until 30<sup>th</sup> August. Individual sessions cost \$8 per session. Or sign up for all 13 weeks for only \$25. These sessions will suit all Novice and Junior players with Cert of Proficiency. - See NZ Bridge for more info or contact Kathryn.

Check out the Lessons Tab on our website for Improver Lessons coming up in July and August

## Dates for your Diaries

Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> – North Auckland Challenge – see details above

Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bridge social – Social bridge followed by Pizza and drinks – from 1.30 - more details to follow.

## Recent Competition Winners



Should you have an article or event you think we would like to know about, please contact Lynley. When you come to bridge the most important thing is that, whether you win or lose, you enjoy your games! **Have fun!**

Lynley, Club President, and the Bridge Committee

## Bridge Laughs (thanks Vanessa!)

### A BAD NIGHT AT THE BRIDGE CLUB

I'm giving up Bridge - tonight's my last night  
It's amen to stayman, I give up the fight  
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles  
And I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles  
My cards are all rotten and I have forgotten  
Who's played, and what's trumps  
And what's gone to my right  
So, for now it's all over, I'm off to the backwoods  
I'm bidding goodbye to Gerber and Blackwood.  
I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain  
I'm getting those bad cards again and again  
I'm giving up Bridge - tonight's a bad night  
Declarer is horrid, and nothing has gone right  
My partners a dope and I'm losing all hope  
And when she said "double" I knew we would be in trouble!  
My points are not high and I'm wondering why  
She kept bidding right up to the sky  
We're in six spades and all my hopes fade  
When - surprise surprise, her high bidding pays  
We're winning all tricks; the defenders feel sick  
And I have to admit my partner's a brick  
But I'm giving up Bridge - tonight's my last night.  
Farewell to conventions, I give up the fight  
So, I will leave you with a few words but some that true  
Bridge's a game, not for me but for you  
So be kind to your partners and don't mind their cheek  
For it's only a game

Oh!

And see you next week!