



July 2022

Franklin Bridge Club



Some of our members pictured with Pam, centre.

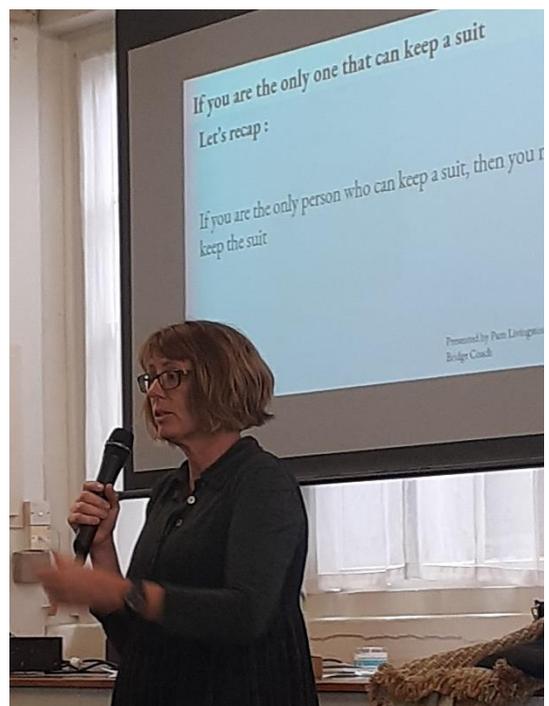
A Very Successful Defence Seminar

by Maureen Nelson

On a cold, windy, rainy Saturday last month more than 60 players assembled for this seminar on Honing Your Defence by Taranaki bridge coach and leading NZ player Pam Livingston – what better way to spend a winter afternoon?

About half the attendees were from our club, a generous number from Royle Epsom, and a sprinkling from other supportive clubs.

Pam proved to be an excellent teacher, augmenting her tips with pre-dealt boards to play, which illustrated the point she had been making.





It was great to see the room full and to hear the buzz of discussion and chatter as everyone put theory into practice.

A huge thank-you to John Fergusson, our Training Manager, who came up with the idea of the seminar and made it happen. Also big thank-yous to his able assistants – from organisation, checking people in, dealing boards, bringing a plate, loading the dishwasher afterwards – many club members stepped up to help. We couldn't have done it without you.

And some feedback from Pam: “I hope everyone enjoyed the seminar. Great to see so many there and so well organised. It was a real pleasure.”

And Next For All Improvers!

If Pam’s seminar has motivated you to keep improving your bridge, a wonderful programme of online lessons is underway now for all improvers – from capable novices up to intermediate players.

NZ Bridge is running a comprehensive online course which started in mid-June, with lessons on Tuesdays at 7-9pm and repeating the next day, Wednesdays 2-4pm.

The topics alternate each week between Improver and Intermediate; so if you are a novice, for example, you can attend a lesson every fortnight.

Get your bridge partner involved so you can develop your skills together or come alone.

IMPROVER ONLINE CLASSES

Sessions held every Tuesday and Wednesday starting 14 June '22' Come to either or both sessions.

1ST NIGHT - TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2022 7PM-9PM \$6.00 per session

Repeated Wednesday 2-4pm

nzbridge.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND

The sessions, costing \$6 each, are a mix of instruction (via Zoom) and practice (using RealBridge) and you can take part on your own or with a bridge partner.

Diary the dates for the next two months below, and the programme carries on till late November; later dates will appear in a future newsletter, but you can look now at the full details and instructions at:

www.nzbridge.co.nz/online-lessons-and-improver-classes.html?fbclid=IwAR2UzgL7wnSOzpF5A8Enk-D_ebZ_YwZ0Sn_c7R48mwHcAryXMYjcrZh3oY.

And to register, email teaching@nzbridge.co.nz for links and instructions.

Intermediate	Checkback Stayman	Tues 5 July 7-9pm	Wed 6 July 2-4pm
Improver	Play Techniques, Rule of 20	Tues 12 July 7-9pm	Wed 13 July 2-4pm
Intermediate	Escaping 1NTX	Tues 19 July 7-9pm	Wed 20 July 2-4pm
Improver	Notrump Play	Tues 26 July 7-9pm	Wed 27 July 2-4pm
Intermediate	Combat Interference to our 1NT	Tues 2 Aug 7-9pm	Wed 3 Aug 2-4pm
Improver	Declarer Play Suit Contracts	Tues 9 Aug 7-9pm	Wed 10 Aug 2-4pm
Intermediate	Competing over 1NT Opening	Tues 16 Aug 7-9pm	Wed 17 Aug 2-4pm
Improver	Opening Leads & minor openers	Tues 23 Aug 7-9pm	Wed 24 Aug 2-4pm
Intermediate	Competitive Bidding: we open	Tues 30 Aug 7-9pm	Wed 31 Aug 2-4pm

Welcome To Novices

Supervised novice play has finished so the new players will join in club play from now on. Usual procedures apply: be helpful but don't deluge them with information, and no penalty-doubling.

And next month, on 18 August, the new session of lessons begins, so it's time for everyone to start recruiting for prospective new members. John Fergusson will be giving out leaflets for us to distribute or put up at suitable venues.

Tournament News

June was a busy month for some of our tournament players.

At the Auckland Queen's Birthday Weekend congress, Franklin members were winners in the two highest pairs events!



Two of the country's top players, Emerald Grand Master **Grant Jarvis** and Platinum Grand Master Michael Ware, pictured on previous page, combined for the 12-table 15A pairs and won it by a large margin.

On the same day, in the congress's Open Restricted section that drew seven tables, the winners in a closely contested top grouping were **Kevin Birch** and **Mereana Cullen**, right. **David Spencer** and **Teresa Phillips** came fourth-equal.



In the 15A teams final, Grant's team came fourth.

At the end of the month Kevin and Mereana came second in the Te Aroha multigrade 8B teams – with only four teams competing. (Online bridge tournaments seem to be winning the contest for entry numbers – see next newsletter item.) Grant's team came fourth in the 12-team Open 5A teams.

Back to the beginning of June, when **Chris Glyde** and **Maria Casci** played two events at the Hawke's Bay Congress at Queen's Birthday Weekend and came in the top ten of Monday's 28-table 10A Swiss Pairs, gaining 8th place.

There has been much feedback about the National Swiss Pairs being transferred to online late in the day. Whatever the rights and wrongs of the decision, the result was 98 pairs participating. **Grant Jarvis** came fifth with partner Jan Cormack, and our defence tutor Pam Livingston won the event with partner Jan Alabaster.

Finally, four of our leading players kindly lent their support to Howick club's Totara Hospice Charity Tournament on 23 June: **Trevor Robb** and **Arie Geursen** came first east-west, and **Grant Jarvis** and **Lynne Geursen** came second north-south.

Bridge – Online or Face to Face or Both?

The hot topic amongst tournament players this year is whether tournaments should continue to be played online, a method first introduced in response to the Covid situation; or revert to pre-Covid face-to-face mode.

NZ Bridge has established a working group to make decisions on the development of a new strategy for the future of online bridge from next year

and beyond; and it has launched a consultation amongst all levels of players regarding online bridge.

The consultation is not just about tournaments but all online bridge situations:

- online play for club sessions
- general play
- tournaments of all types and levels
- online teaching and online learning
- training and technical support.

The consultation will invite the views of all key stakeholders including:

- Regional committees and clubs
- All ranks of players, including club and tournament players
- Directors.

You can make a submission as an individual; for details and to see what questions NZ Bridge would like feedback on, go to:

www.nzbridge.co.nz/blog/8549/NEW-ZEALAND-BRIDGE-ONLINE-BRIDGE-STRATEGY-CONSULTATION:-HAVE-YOUR-SAY

Consultation closes on Friday 12 August.

Winter Sunday Bridge

Winter bridge on Sunday afternoons started last month and will continue over the winter till warm weather arrives again.

It's a friendly session, suitable for novices, but higher ranked players will also get some good competition. No partner is required so if you feel like bridge and chat on a Sunday, come along by 1.45, with play starting at 2pm. Table money is \$6.

Visitors are also welcome, so if you know someone from another club at a loose end on a Sunday, invite them along.

David Bird Evening

Auckland bridge club have been running some innovative online lessons for improvers – juniors and intermediates. Last month they had four lessons from a top British bridge teacher and international, Andrew Robson.

This month it's fellow-Brit David Bird, another famous international bridge writer and teacher – Auckland club describes him as “the most prolific bridge writer in the world”.



So diary the evening of Friday 15 July, with play starting at 7pm online on RealBridge.

You and your partner will play 12 hands online, and then join the post mortem and group discussion led live by David Bird.

You will need to pre-enter so the club can organise the platform for the post mortem. Enter for yourself and a partner, but if you don't have a partner wanting to play, Auckland should be able to match you up with someone.

Amazingly, this is a free session, but you do need to create a free visitor account first if you don't have a Hello Club account already.

This is an unmissable evening for improvers: go to <https://www.akbc.co.nz/realbridge>, scroll down to 15 July and click on David Bird to pre-register. You can also kibitz this event, which could be a good option if you don't have a partner and don't want to take potluck with a substitute.

Member News

from Our Roving Reporters



In June many Franklin members turned out to support a good cause: Franklin Hospice, which works with ill people in their homes at no charge. In its first post-Covid fundraising event, the hospice held a luncheon and a dinner in mid June. Some of our members who attended the lunch were, from left: Teresa Phillips, Sue Helleur, Maureen Nelson, Belinda Summerville, Sue Spencer, Bev Henton and Christine Lyons.

New Regional Committee Members

Auckland Northland Regional Committee now has some members! New additions to the committee members for the year starting this month are: Jane Stearns, Whangarei; Tania Brown, Whangarei; and Peter Bowyer, Howick.

Grant Jarvis, who will continue to be part of this new committee, says that “all have already contributed much to bridge and their diverse interests and backgrounds will add greatly to our decision-making.

“Our new Regional Support Person, Steph Jacob, will be working closely with the Committee.”

Centenarian Retires

Melbourne Bridge Club has farewelled one of its oldest and longest-playing members – at the age of 106! Joan Smurthwaite learnt bridge about 80 years ago, and has finally decided to put down her cards for good.

“Lately, life has become more challenging for me and I find it hard to get around,” she told ABC Radio Melbourne. “And I just think that although the spirit is willing, the flesh is weak.”

Cheating Charge Resolution Negotiated

Late last month the American Contract Bridge League approved a negotiated resolution to a charge of collusive cheating between a former ACBL president – who was due to join the organisation’s hall of fame – and her husband.

Sharon Anderson and her husband Roger admitted the charge.

Mrs Anderson stated: “While playing on BBO club games during 2021 and 22, I did not abide by the ACBL's active ethics policies.

“As a result of talking and sharing information during some games, with my husband, Roger Anderson, I took advantage of unauthorized information that did not allow my opponents to compete on equal terms. I take responsibility for my mistakes and admit guilt with great remorse.”

She agreed to a suspension of three years, followed by a probation of five years, an exclusion from playing with her husband as a partner in online ACBL-sanctioned events during her probation, a forfeiture of 10% of her total masterpoints, and withdrawal from ACBL Hall of Fame induction. Her husband was suspended for 30 months, followed by a probation of five years, and a forfeiture of 10% of his masterpoints.

Eddie Kantar RIP

A belated acknowledgment of the loss in April of international bridge player and teacher Eddie Kantar of Los Angeles, aged 89. Twice world champion (1977 and 1979), Eddie was known internationally for his teaching and writing, and many of our members will have read his books, some of whose humour has become part of the bridge-funnies standard repertoire.

“We had a partnership misunderstanding.

I assumed my partner knew what he was doing.”

Online Help

This month’s helpful website is aimed at our **novices from this and last year’s lessons** – and also our **more inexperienced Juniors**.

At the bridge table and in this newsletter you will notice references to the NZ Bridge website: www.nzbridge.co.nz. Under the Learn Bridge menu there, you’ll find a section on Beginner Lesson Material: worth a look-through on a winter’s evening where you should find some helpful extra information to get those novice lessons firmly fixed in your head.

And for not-total-novices but still very much learning – have a look at Articles For New Players, which is also under the Learn Bridge menu.

This month’s Online Help suggestion is for both novices and lower Juniors: the NZ Bridge website’s home page always has a daily hand, where expert Richard Solomon dissects the bidding and play at various levels of bridge. At the moment the hands every Friday are aimed at graduates from novice lessons. As Richard says: “deals on a Friday will focus on very basic principles, the ones [you] have been shown in the classes. Hopefully, these hands will cement these principles.”

Here is one interesting one – work out what you would do with the bidding and play before you read Richard’s analysis:

<https://www.nzbridge.co.nz/blog/8520/Daily-Bridge-in-New-Zealand>

Then on other wintry days, scroll down the NZ Bridge home page for the previous Friday postings and read all his really useful explanations of how to bid and play various types of hands. (And a final piece of background information for new members: Gold Grand Master Richard is a well-known figure in the NZ bridge scene – and until last year he was a leading member of our Franklin club.)

The Revoke

A revoke (called renege in other card games) is a failure to follow suit when able to.

If a revoke has been discovered when neither the revoking player nor their partner has played to the next trick it must be corrected, and “exposed card” rules apply for a defender.

Otherwise the revoke is “established” and play continues with the Director applying an “automatic trick adjustment” after the hand is completed.

With one exception any player may ask another, who has failed to follow suit, if they have none of the suit led (to prevent the revoke becoming established). The exception is dummy may not ask that of a defender. That alerts declarer to a discard which might otherwise have gone unnoticed. For the same reason, no player should ever announce “I have none of those” (or words to that effect) when failing to follow suit.

No tricks won by the revoking side *before* the revoke are ever transferred, so if the non-offending side won all the subsequent tricks there is no adjustment.

The adjustment is normally one trick but, if the revoke card won the trick, a second trick is transferred. Note the trick adjustment is “automatic” (not a “rectification”) so it might give the non-offending side a bonus when they had lost nothing, or it might just give them back what they had lost.

However, if the adjustment doesn’t adequately compensate the other side for what they lost, the Director restores equity by adjusting the result to what was likely had the revoke not occurred.

The Director similarly restores equity if dummy revokes (because of a card concealed or otherwise unnoticed). There is no automatic trick adjustment for a revoke by dummy.

Any contributions to the newsletter, please email Wendy Morris,
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And if you want copies of any newsletter photos, please email.