

TABLE TALK – June 2016 with Richard Solomon

Intermediate Success for Teresa and David

Congratulations to Teresa Phillips and David Spencer who won Papatoetoe's Intermediate Pairs tournament on Sunday 12th June. They might not have been expecting to win as they averaged a good 58% though the first round leaders had posted a 70% score. However, it was a tournament of 52 boards and not just 26. Consistency won in the end.



David and Teresa are all smiles at Papatoetoe

They are having a great run at present as in the last month, they qualified to represent Auckland- Northland Region in this year's Inter-Provincial Championships in the Intermediate grade and were one of the two pairs who won for this club the Intermediate section of the Auckland- Northland Clubs Championship. Congratulations to them and

also to Mae McRobbie and Irene Bronlund who came third in the Papatoetoe event.

Congratulations also to Lynne Geursen and Bev Donaldson who recently won Howick's Charity Pairs with a 69.72% round.

Auckland- Northland Clubs Championship

Next, to this event where there were 12 teams of club players, 4 each from Open, Intermediate and Junior grades. All three grades counted equally to produce one result. Our Open and Intermediate teams had very good days and our Juniors rallied after a nervy start. Franklin finished second to Royle Epsom, the highest the club has been in any of these mixed grade events in recent years.

NEARLY 84

No, it's not the age of one of our players (if it is, we will keep it quiet!), but it is the percentage that Diane Conroy and Bev Donaldson scored on the Friday session of the club on June 3rd. 83.8% to be exact. There were 5 and half tables in play and the field included the likes of Lynne Geursen, Nelda Wormald and Jim Buckland. So, there was no easy ride. The session lasted 22 boards.

I am sure if you asked Diane and Bev about the boards they would relive every one for you, a once in a lifetime score. Congratulations to them both.

Rubber News Franklin has a small heat of four pairs in the National competition. Chris Glyde and Maria Casci won their first round match but the other semi-final match has yet to be played. More next month.

Inter club news

In the last round, our Intermediates had a 57-57 draw with the Auckland Mayhew team and are 5th out of 17 teams, 20vps behind Waiheke, the leaders. Our Open team did a little better, with a 50-48 win over Auckland Mixed Bag and are 7th out of 9 but only 13 vps behind Akarana, the leaders.

Thursday Nights

Debbie Sullivan reports we have a good core group of 10 beginners playing each Thursday night. So, it will be great when they start to play on Wednesdays...standing room only!

Beginners' Lessons

While we are talking about new players, the club is running another series of beginners' lessons on Thursday evenings starting on 14th July. It is common knowledge that the most successful form of advertising for new players is "word of mouth". So, that means each of you just using a touch of "gentle persuasion" on friends and relations to remind them they were going to learn the game some day. 14th July is that day.

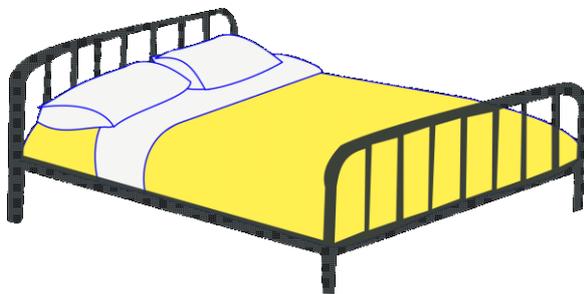


Gentle Persuasion

Table Numbers

Wednesday night has traditionally been the big table number night but Mondays have been on the improve of late, 11 teams in the Restricted Teams and 10 and a half tables of Pairs a couple of weeks ago. That's good to see.

National Bridge Teachers Conference



You may think this has got nothing to do with you...but wait! New Zealand Bridge is holding a two day conference for bridge teachers at our club on the weekend of July 16th/17th.

Debbie Sullivan and Chris Glyde will be representing our club at what should be a very informative couple of days.

We will have around 50 bridge teachers coming from all round New Zealand. That can be quite a cost for some. As one of the organisers, I am asking if any club members would

offer one of the teachers a bed for the night of Saturday July 16th. It's not just the cost. Some of the teachers enjoy meeting players from a different venue. We need to find about 6 more beds for that night. Would you be prepared to help? If so, or you want to find out more, please contact me on richardharoldsolomon@gmail.com or phone me on 232 8494 or just tell me on a Monday night. Some of you have already offered. Many thanks.

Some News from Arie.

Bridgemates. Do you sit North or West and you never get to look at the bridgemate scores? Or you have to reach over and grab the machine to have a look? That is not the idea. While South enters the result and East checks it (more on that below), **all four players** have the right to see the result on the board, the percentage and if there is time, the comparison with other tables. That phrase "if there is time" is very important. If the move has been called, then you must not delay to have a look. However, if the play is finished in good time, then all four players should have the opportunity to look. Please remember that if you sit South or East.

Checking Scores. Corrections can be made up until the next session a week later. However, scores should be checked by East. Thus, if you are sitting East, just take a minute to check the score. It is much easier to do so on the night at the table.

Improvers' Sessions.

There are some dates to note if you would like to play a little better.

Thursday June 23rd evening. Arie is running a seminar on *Stayman and Transfers*. This is for more Junior players and will fill a gap because these are not covered in the Beginners series of lessons. Arie will explain why we use these bids and will show you how they work. I am sure he will get you playing them too.

Play to Improve. Friday nights starting Friday July 22nd. I will be running a series of play evenings. You will play a series of boards and we will discuss the bidding, play and defence after each hand. You do not need to come with a partner though you are most welcome to do so.

There will be different themes each night. The sessions are targeted at keen Junior and at Intermediate players. Everyone is welcome.

The sessions will run from 7.00pm until 9.30pm with a \$10 per session cost. I would appreciate to know in advance if you intend to come so that we have enough boards made up beforehand. There will be between 4 and 6 sessions, depending on the level of interest.

More dates for your Bridge Diary

Sunday 24th July The very popular Individual Championship where you play 24 boards with 24 different partners. It really will be a most enjoyable afternoon.

Sunday August 7th The club tournament for Intermediate and Junior players only.

Sunday September 11th A special ultra- restricted event where Intermediate and Open players **must** play with a

Junior player. There will be systems restrictions this day too..no Multi 2♦ etc. We will set out the rules closer to the time. If you are willing to play with a Junior player, or are a Junior player wishing to play, please let Maureen Nelson know. msnelson.nz@gmail.com or see Maureen at the club.

Sunday October 8th Restricted 8B Pairs Tournament at our club. Note the date. More details closer to the time.

And if you would like a day or two or seven (that's for really keen players), there's the National Bridge Congress in Hamilton during the last week of September. See the brochures at the club from 21st June. Of particular interest to our newer players might be the NOVICE PAIRS on the afternoon of Sunday September 25th. Experience the great atmosphere of a huge bridge congress and play just a one session event with players of a very Junior level. Ask a more experienced player about this.

Player News... otherwise called "Gossip Corner"

In early June, Kevin Birch shared a milestone birthday with Wednesday night players. There were 4 suit symbols on top of a very rich chocolate cake. You've heard of the loaves and the fishes. Well, thanks to Diesel, who helps out his mother Karleen in the kitchen each week, there was plenty for all.

Kevin... is this favouritism? Not a crumb reached Monday night players..or did we just play bridge on the wrong night?



And then we have our two players who were in “kneed” of an operation. That’s Ann Anderson and Margaret Gardiner. They have each just had one knee replaced (neither being greedy!) and both hope to be back at the table soon, probably sitting North-South for a while. We hope to see you both back very soon.

News of Wendy and Terry Prior

Maureen Nelson heard recently from them. We thought you might be interested to know how they are getting on.

“Dear Maureen

Thank you so much for your email. Very thoughtful of you. We are still with our daughter who has been in Kati Kati for a long time, and moving this weekend to stay with Pauline, our daughter we were with in Bombay.

We have joined the bridge club here and played 4 times. People are very friendly here, but it was different walking into a bridge club where we knew no one. The first 3 times we played with each other, but last night with different people. Arie seems to be known by some people, and one knows Ron Rooney.

It is pleasant here, but we won't feel settled until we have our own house. We are still looking into options for building one on our daughter's orchard. Please say hi to people at the club.

I see that Pam and Rolf, who we should have been playing with last night, did very well.

Best wishes

Wendy and Terry”

So now you know. They are settling in but nowhere is as good as Franklin, is it? Talking of Ron Rooney. He has not been that well recently but he's on the improve. He has just moved from Glenbrook to a higher level of care residence in Papakura.

Oh yes, we play bridge, too.

Now, I am going to leap to my defence before a card is played as this board was given to me. I have very sweet

memories of it. The point made was that at all 10 tables, the contract failed. You can start to get the idea when you hear that North-South **and** East –West both played in diamonds at the 2,3 or even the 4 level. Monday night players found it rather hard.

Board 12
 West Deals
 N-S Vul

<p>♠ Q 8 5 3 ♥ Q 8 7 5 3 ♦ Q 9 5 ♣ 10</p>		<p>♠ 6 2 ♥ A 6 2 ♦ A K J 6 2 ♣ J 8 3</p>	<p>♠ A K 10 ♥ — ♦ 10 8 7 4 3 ♣ A K Q 6 5</p>
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♠ J 9 7 4
 ♥ K J 10 9 4
 ♦ —
 ♣ 9 7 4 2

Dare I suggest how it maybe should have gone:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT (12-14)	x	xx (a 5+ card suit)
Pass	2♣	x	2♥
x	All Pass		

The redouble requested North to bid 2♣. There was to be no escape for East-West.

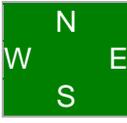
Or if North-South were playing a strong no trump opening:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	2♣	All Pass

South is too weak to bid and having a void in partner's suit makes a bid even riskier. North should pass because of the 3 card club suit. If South had wanted to compete, they could

have done but did not. 2♣ can make. It would not have been nearly as good as the score we achieved East-West which only blackmail will reveal.

I was also given the following deal from the same night. Maybe fortunately, partner and I were phantom as the deal was in North-South's hands.

<i>Board 1</i>	♠ A 9 8 7 3	
North Deals	♥ A Q 9	
None Vul	♦ K J 4	
	♣ 8 7	
♠ 10 6 4	♠ J 2	
♥ J 10 8	♥ 7 6 4 3	
♦ Q 9 8 2	♦ 10 7 3	
♣ J 5 4	♣ Q 9 3 2	
		
	♠ K Q 5	
	♥ K 5 2	
	♦ A 6 5	
	♣ A K 10 6	

Only one pair bid the North-South cards to 7NT, Jerry Kuggeleijn and Julie Quilty. They bid as follows (opposition quite silent)

North	South
1♠	2♣
2♠	4♣ aces
4♠	5♣ kings
5♥	7NT

Pass

Julie (South) knew they held all the aces and kings and reckoned Jerry had more than the 11 hcp shown in aces and

kings (not if you are my partner, Julie). She took the plunge and when the diamond finesse worked had 13 lovely tricks.

See you all next month.

Richard