

Te Awamutu Bridge Club

Newsletter – January 2019

Welcome to 2019. I hope you have all enjoyed the festive season and have been able to have plenty of time to relax and refresh with your families and friends.

Programme Books

If you received this newsletter by email your new purple programme book will be delivered very shortly, otherwise it is enclosed with this newsletter. Once again the cost of printing these has been sponsored by Herbert Morton, the accountancy practice where Kate's husband, Kyle, is a Director. Our grateful thanks go to Kyle for this generous contribution. The font sizes have been increased so I hope you will find this book much easier to read than the previous edition. A larger version of the phone list is available to anyone who would like one, just let me know what you would like.

2018 AGM

The club AGM and prize giving was held on Friday 30 November after our regular bridge session as was decided at the previous AGM. Attendance was on a par with previous years. For those who were unable to attend some of the key items are summarised below.

Committee

At the AGM you were kind enough to re-elect myself, and Dennis will continue his role as secretary. Alison Snell was elected as Vice President. Lyn Brennan will take over the treasurer post relinquished by Kate who will remain a committee member. We had much pleasure in welcoming Karen Mace onto the committee. Bruce Mandeno, Gael Sanders and Sally Whitaker are the other returning committee members.

Club Champs

Participation at last year's club Champs was much improved over the previous year so it was resolved to continue with the same format again in 2019.

Subs

Your Subscription for 2019 is now due. The club's finances are in a good position and so subscriptions have remained the same as the past several years. Details – including how to pay – are in your programme book. Please pay by 28 February to get the discount.

Friday Partner Steward

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Brian Sloan will once again be the Friday Partnership steward with help from Linda. Brian enjoys the social contact that the role provides and has an iPad with voice recognition to assist with recording the details. I'm very glad that the club can provide this conduit for Brian to maintain contact with members.

Bridge Lessons

After several years as our tutor Linda has retired as she was unable to commit the time needed to taking the lessons. Sally Whitaker has accepted the role for 2019 and lessons will begin on Thursday 2nd May.

Prize Vouchers

During 2018 the committee made some changes to the way prize vouchers were distributed in order to address some inconsistencies between sessions. These changes did not meet with universal approval so an alternative scheme was discussed at the AGM and approved by the members present.

This new scheme will see 4 players receive 2 vouchers each at every series. For individual events 1st and 2nd gross winners and the next 2 handicap places will receive 2 vouchers each. For pairs events there will 2 vouchers each for the gross winners, and the next placed handicap winners.

Prize Giving

The list of prize winners for 2018 is in your programme book. Unfortunately at the prize giving I presented the trophy for best local pair at our Intermediate Tournament to Kate Owen and myself. I didn't play in that event and the trophy should have gone to Kate and Sally Whitaker. My deep apologies to Sally. The list in the book is correct.

Grade Changes

Since the programme book was printed there have been some changes to player grades. Congratulations to Barbara Jolly and Pat Moorby who have both moved up to Intermediate grade for 2019. Barbara's daughter, Megan was also promoted to Intermediate on the same date.

Unfortunately Sheila, who has hovered around the cutoff between Open and Intermediate grades, failed by 1 Masterpoint to retain her Open rank and will be an Intermediate player for 2019.

Please alter their grade in your programme books.

Summer Bridge

If you are missing your bridge and feel the urge to play before our club sessions begin you will be welcome at the Waikato Bridge Club on Monday evenings. Arrange your own partner and be seated by 7:20 pm.

Best wishes for your bridge in 2019

Nick Cantlon - President