



AUCKLAND/NORTHLAND REGIONAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER – March 2022

Kia ora koutou

Sadly, the hoped for “normal” year of bridge did not eventuate. We are happy that an increasing number of players have accepted on-line bridge. In many cases tournaments have allowed increased numbers, competitiveness and the ability to meet- and play with- players at the other end of the country. But to those who are waiting for face-to-face bridge to return we hope those days will return this year and you are not lost to the game.

Committee

For the past year Grant Jarvis has been a solo Committee member. This situation has only been workable thanks to NZB member Sue Brown running our finances and the highly efficient team at Auckland Bridge Club running most of our tournaments and interclub bridge. He has greatly appreciated the ability to draw on the experience of Tony Morcom, Patrick Carter and NZB members as required.

Grant has retired from teaching, will remain on the Committee and welcomes queries and the raising of issues affecting the clubs and tournaments in our region and the promotion of bridge in general.

Initial contact: gjarvis@xtra.co.nz

NZB will invite nominations for the Committee after this term expires in June. Meetings, if required, are likely to be by zoom for the current year. Hopefully that may encourage Northland nominations.

2021 Inter-Provincial Success

We are delighted to advise that last November saw Auckland/Northland retain the national title and Dougal McLean trophy from Wellington. In a very strong competition both the Women and Senior teams won their categories in an event contested on-line.

The players and province are indebted to many individuals but **Tony Morcom, Sue Brown** and team Chef de Mission **Douglas Russell** played a significant part in establishing and supporting the team in all aspects of organisation.

Ukraine Fundraiser

Life is not easy at the present time but for those in the Ukraine it must be horrendous. How can we help in a small but caring way? NZB and the Auckland Bridge Club have taken the initiative to hold an online RealBridge tournament covering two night sessions (March 31 and April 1). Players may opt to play just one night. Fliers were circulated to club secretaries on March 19 but can also be found on the Auckland BC website. Entries via the NZB upcoming tournaments page. The event is graded into 3 sections. If you cannot play those dates or are not on-line fans you may wish to donate to such a worthy cause. Details are below:

[Auckland Bridge Club](#)

Bank A/C: 01 0258 0010388 00

Particulars: Ukraine

Code: Your Name

Reference: Yes (or no) - if receipt requested.

[Receipts can only be issued once appropriate charities are approved.](#)

Rubber Bridge

It's that time again! We are currently opening entries for the National Dan Gifford Rubber Bridge Tournament and encourage all Clubs to promote widely in your Club. In some years several pairs who wanted to play, missed out on entry because the documentation and the follow up phone calls to the Clubs did not get out to the members.

Attached is a flier about the Rubber Bridge Tournament and the rules. Only a basic system is allowed. Pairs can opt for face to face or on-line for their 30 board matches. Sylvester Riddell has kindly offered to assist Real bridge matches via the Auckland BC.

Entries to gjarvis@xtra.co.nz Closing date April 10. NZ Finals will be held at Congress in October (if face to face)

Monthly Inter Club Teams

Many thanks to the Auckland Bridge Club for continuing this popular competition. Given the event is on-line we are delighted with the response of 18 junior teams, 20 intermediate teams and 10 open teams. An on-line practice and learning opportunity provided by the region attracted 20 teams. Our thanks are further extended to the team of directors who have offered their services – each category have their own director. We wish all participants an enjoyable start on Friday March 25 but we particularly welcome the teams from the far north who join for the first time.

Easter Bridge Congress

We again thank the Auckland Bridge Club and director Patrick Carter for hosting this popular event. A flyer from Auckland Bridge Club was distributed to your club on March 19.

Saturday 16 April	-10A Pairs <u>plus</u> 8B Restricted Pairs (restricted to players with under 100 A pts)
Sunday 17 April	-10A Teams Qualifying Rounds
Monday 18 April	-3A Pairs 10A Teams Final

Entries can be made through the NZ Bridge Tournament website with payment via the Auckland BC Hello Account (click on visitors tab on their website to open an account).

Regional Committee Business Plan

Sue Brown is currently compiling our business plan and budget for the year from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023. We are very keen to hear from you, the members, on any projects you would like to see included and funded for the region. Please let me know any ideas you have – preferably by the end of the month – so they can be discussed and included.

Bridge Activities Planned For Our Young Players

Paul Coleman, Auckland/Northland's Youth Co-Ordinator, continues to fully support young people. This includes coaching and playing. Keep your eye out for notifications directly from Paul on these. If you have any young people that New Zealand Bridge may not know about please let us – or Paul – know so that they can receive the notices. We remind youth players that we subsidise tournament entry fees.

Contact: : p hm.coleman@gmail.com; youth@nzbridge.co.nz

Upcoming Trials For The Inter-Regionals

Auckland/Northland region trials will be held over the weekend of the **7th and 8th May**. The Region will hold on-line qualifying trials to select teams for each of open, intermediate, senior and women. A youth team will be invited.

The 2022 Inter-Regionals are to be contested on **November 18-20** in an on-line competition.

Event background: <http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/ips.html>

We hope to see strong trials fields and we particularly encourage intermediate players to trial. We rely on Clubs to encourage their players from all grades to “have a go”. Please remind members that we are defending our the title.

Note that for 2022 a senior must now be at least 63 during the year.

An informal poll of 20 potential triallists is being used to help decide the final format and team structures but currently any pair qualifying first or 2nd will be able to ask for a 3rd pair. It may be decided all teams will have 3 pairs. **Entries are now open on the NZB website.**

2022 NZ Congress

The schedule of events for the NZ Congress in October has just been completed and will appear on the NZB bridge website. There are changes to the recent on-line event

Bridge lesson and marketing cost subsidies

Remember that ANRC will pay to assist Clubs with their marketing costs.

On the production of invoices or receipts ANRC will pay 50% of costs related to marketing, running bridge lessons or other promotional activity to a maximum of \$300 per Club per financial year. This subsidy will not be paid for wages/salaries/honorariums for members of the Clubs but is for external costs such as printing, advertising etc.

Happy Bridging!

Grant Jarvis

ANRC