



AUCKLAND NORTHLAND REGION ..... JULY 2025



# NEWSLETTER



Eds: Lysandra Zheng, Jane Stearns

## REGIONAL HUI

REGISTER YOUR CLUB'S DELEGATE NOW!

Who from your club is joining our **annual hui**?

This year's event is especially aimed at Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Club Captains. We have a packed agenda with some fabulous topics and speakers.

### GROWING YOUR CLUB *Clare Coles*

Join our keynote speaker on improving membership at your club.

### POSTER & NEWSLETTER DESIGN *Lysandra Zheng*

If you enjoy our regional newsletter - learn how to create a similar design for your club.

### OBLIGATIONS AFTER RE-REGISTRATION *Sue Brown*

There's more to do – check you know the next steps for your club.

### NZB CLUB TOOLKIT *Anne Barrowclough*

A guide through the highlights of new materials for clubs.

### RETENTION SPECIAL *Ken Dixon*

Ken shares the secrets of Waitemata's retention success.

### TEACHING MATERIALS UPDATE *Alan Grant*

Learn how new materials are progressing and get an overview of the changes planned.

### WOMEN'S & INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE *Jan Cormack*

Hear about the experiences and learnings of a seasoned and current representative

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE *Hamish Brown*

Feedback from the 2025 Conference, including an overview on Regional Championships

.....  
**27 JULY**  
SUNDAY

**10 – 4**  
AM PM

East Coast Bays  
Bridge Club

*Workshops*

**BEING AN  
EFFECTIVE  
CHAIR**

*Anne Barrowclough*

**CLUB  
CAPTAIN  
TOOLKIT**

*Clare Coles*

**Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided.**

Register with Mary Chamberlain [mary.chamberlain.nz@gmail.com](mailto:mary.chamberlain.nz@gmail.com) before July 23





# BARFOOT & THOMPSON

LICENSED REAA 2008

The **Paihia Sixes**, held at Opua Hall, was a highly anticipated event, being booked out well in advance. With 14 teams of six players – each consisting of an Open, Intermediate, and Junior pair – a total of 21 tables competed for the numerous prizes on offer.

The atmosphere was both fun and competitive, with players of all grades contributing to their team's performance, and many embracing the chance to dress up for the occasion!

The club thanks the sponsors, **Barfoot & Thompson**, for their generous support of the event. Thanks also to local chocolatiers **Makana Chocolates** and Webster-family owned **The Breeze Café**.

While the bridge was the main event, additional prizes were awarded for the winners of the Quiz and the "Best-Dressed" Team. Makana Chocolates provided the delectable prizes for these winners.

# PAIHIA SIXES

## SECTION WINNERS

### OPEN

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tamati Grieg & John McIntosh
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Patsy Walters & Ant Hopkins

### INTERMEDIATE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sally Bullen & David Winslow
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Carolyn Nicholas & Gayle McBeth

### JUNIOR

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pauline Sieling & Lewis Hart
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Heather Stringer & Mary Woolley



### Winners: "The Cowboys"

Ken and Mary Swinburne, Vanessa McGoldrick, Tamara Rebourgeon (Barfoot & Thompson), Tamati Grieg, John McIntosh, Ian Johnson

MORE PHOTOS  
OVER THE PAGE





Runners-Up & Quiz Champions: "Six Sixty"



Third Place: "The Boaties"



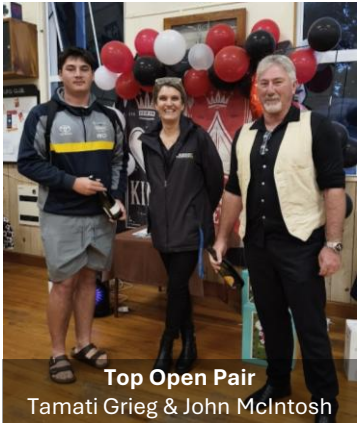
Kitchen Crew: Marion, Lauren, and Judy



Top Junior Pair  
Pauline Sieling & Lewis Hart



Top Intermediate Pair  
Dave Winslow & Sally Bullen



Top Open Pair  
Tamati Grieg & John McIntosh



"Drop Kicks"



Costume Prizewinners: "Bream Bay Burglars"



"The Fishers"



"Whangārei Wizards"



"The Pretenders"



"Bay of Islands Sixes"



"Wendy and the Lost Boys"



"Bob's Beaux"



"The Blues"





## DARGAVILLE INTERMEDIATE & JUNIOR PAIRS

Dargaville ran a set of dual Intermediate and Junior pairs tournaments on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, with a total of 17 tables (8 in the Junior and 9 in the Intermediate) coming to the club to compete.

The day saw **Pam Rope** and **Peter Ball** emerge victorious in the Intermediate section, scoring 60.88% – barely one percent's advantage over second place **Thomas Freeman-Greene** and **Jody Burchall**. The two partnerships were neck-to-neck in the first session, both with an impressive 62.04% – ironically enough, the second session saw Thomas and Jody winning their section, but with a smaller overall percentage than second-placers Pam and Peter!

The Junior section proved to be an even closer competition, with **Steve Timmins** and **Faith Nathan** winning by the narrow margin of 0.61%, scoring a total 60.50% of the MPs over **Sue Fitzgerald** and **Liz Forbes**.



## Graduation Day RUSSELL

Paihia Club Captain **Heather Cernis** has been busy across the water tutoring new interested bridge players from Russell. These five ladies are recent graduates and there is talk of a **Russell Bridge Club** – watch this space!



1<sup>st</sup> Place: Team JONES

# Hamilton

## AFT PHARMACEUTICALS 5A TEAMS



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Carol Richardson and Steve Boughey from Team RICHARDSON



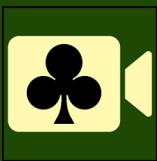
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Team GARY CHEN

This annual event is well attended by both Auckland and Waikato teams. With 18 teams in competition, Aucklanders came away with plenty of prizes, with two “hybrid” teams and two “Auckland only” teams in the top 4 – and a team of all-Papatoetoe players coming away with the Restricted prize (team BUCKLEY (Mark Buckley, Carolyn Buckley, Paul Scott, and Ian McGarvey)!

Congratulations to Team JONES (Barry Jones, Jenny Millington, **Patrick Carter**, and **Julie Atkinson**), who claimed the narrowest of victories, winning by just 0.32 VPs over Team RICHARDSON (**Carol Richardson**, Steve Boughey, Malcolm Mayer, and Brian Mace), with Team GARY CHEN (Gary Chen, John Wang, Herman Yuan, and Yuzhong Chen) comfortably winning the bronze, having effectively secured their podium placement before even starting the final round.



Restricted Prize: Team BUCKLEY



## LEARN BRIDGE ONLINE

The **Teaching and Learning Committee** has organized online **Intermediate lessons** through **August** – suitable for those who have played a few years and are keen to develop their skills!

Each lesson will be held 4-6pm on Sundays, and repeated 7-9pm on the following Tuesdays. [Click here for more information.](#)

SUNDAY 10  
TUESDAY 12

ESCAPING 1NTX

SUNDAY 17  
TUESDAY 19

INTERFERENCE OVER OUR 1NT

SUNDAY 24  
TUESDAY 26

COMPETING OVER THEIR 1NT





# ONLINE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS TRAINING

A comprehensive **Tournament Director Training Course** designed to prepare aspiring tournament directors will be available from **August to October 2025**.

This flexible online program includes:

- **5 Online Modules** – Each approximately 4 hours in length
- **Expert-Led Content** – Including specialist presenter videos, quizzes, forums, and detailed notes
- **Post-Course Revision** – Review materials and an online practical session (currently in trial phase)

The course covers all essential topics needed for candidates preparing for the **NZ Bridge Tournament Directors Assessment Weekend**, taking place **October 25th–27th in Canterbury**.

**Enquiries to Allan Joseph.** See Pages 10-11 for more.



Interested?  
Contact Allan Joseph:

[foodmaidnz@gmail.com](mailto:foodmaidnz@gmail.com)

## HESITATIONS – WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Have you ever been waiting an abnormally long time for your partner to bid, with your own bid prepared long in advance – only for your opponents to frown and say “you can’t do that: your partner waited too long to bid”.

It’s a common misconception that you *can’t* bid if your partner hesitates. But when your partner hesitates, it communicates something to you outside of what you’re allowed to know. You can’t decide that a fast bid shows a weak hand and a slow bid shows a strong hand!

When you or your partner hesitate, the Director must consider whether unauthorized information exists.

Suppose again that your partner hesitates. Now, you had several plausible choices of call when it comes to your turn. You’re not barred from bidding – but you’re barred from making a call that **could have been suggested by the hesitation**.

Sometimes this means the Director will poll other players on their choice of bid without the hesitation. If the call you chose is overwhelmingly popular nothing will change. If you’ve made a minority call – potentially being affected by the hesitation – the Laws require an adjustment.

**EXAMPLE:** You made an **ace-asking bid**, holding one yourself. Your partner also shows you one ace. However, you know you have a long running suit – so on the wrong lead, slam can make. **You gamble and bid the slam.** Partner surprises you with a void in another suit – so you never had two losers to start with. A fortuitous top board for you.

Now, what if your partner **hesitated** for a long while before showing you one ace? What could they have on their mind? Maybe they’ve just forgotten system, but more likely they’ve got a tough decision on whether or not to show their void as an “ace”. Even if you were thinking exactly the same way as in the first scenario, the Laws require an adjustment – because you made a bid that *could have been* influenced by the hesitation, regardless of whether it actually was.

# MASTERPOINT RANKS AND GRADES

NZ Bridge manages a **player incentive scheme** where **masterpoints** are awarded for success in club sessions through to national tournaments. The requirements for each grade are detailed in the appendix, which is copied from the NZ Bridge website.

## Questions have been asked about:

- ❖ The introduction of **further ranks** above Emerald,
- ❖ The **adjustment of gaps** between ranks, which are not consistent, and
- ❖ How ranks might affect **eligibility for graded tournaments**. In particular should a player with <50 A points, with rank of Local Master and therefore intermediate in grade and with 20+ stars be eligible for intermediate tournaments?

**MORE  
DETAILS  
PAGES 12-13**

NZ Bridge is asking for **feedback** on the rankings system and in particular answers to the three points noted above. Please provide submissions to [john.skipper@nzbridge.co.nz](mailto:john.skipper@nzbridge.co.nz) by **10 August 2025**.

Once submissions have been considered, a **draft proposal** will be published before a final recommendation is made to the Board of NZ Bridge, hopefully by the **end of August 2025**.

## REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

*Congratulations*

### Howick Open Pairs

- |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Steve Boughey & Rob Davies    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Grant Jarvis & Patrick Carter |

### Howick Intermediate/Junior Pairs

- |                 |                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Bart Van Hulst & Darshani Jayasinghe |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Cathy Carroll & Christina Hyde       |

### Mt Albert Intermediate Pairs

- |                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Bill Leach & Kerri McCrae           |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Darshani Jayasinghe & Mark Easthope |

### Auckland Thursday Online Swiss Pairs

- |                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Mark Robertson & Graham Wakefield |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Fuxia Wen & Lysandra Zheng        |

### North Shore Restricted Pairs

- |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Joy Zeng & Anne Sim           |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Bigi Cameron & Carol Bearsley |

# UPCOMING *Tournaments*

## AUCKLAND NORTHLAND REGION

**26**  
JUL

HOWICK  
**OPEN PAIRS**  
OPEN 8B

**14**  
AUG

AUCKLAND (ONLINE)  
**THURSDAY PAIRS**  
OPEN 8B

**02**  
AUG

KERIKERI  
**NEW WORLD OPEN PAIRS**  
OPEN 5A

**16**  
AUG

WAITEMATA  
**JUNIOR PAIRS**  
JUNIOR 3B  
**INTERMEDIATE PAIRS**  
INTERMEDIATE 5B

**03**  
AUG

KERIKERI  
**JUNIOR TOURNAMENT**  
JUNIOR 3B

**23**  
AUG

PAIHIA  
**JUNIOR PAIRS**  
JUNIOR 3B  
**INTERMEDIATE PAIRS**  
INTERMEDIATE 5B  
  
MT ALBERT  
**JUNIOR PAIRS**  
JUNIOR 3B

## TOURNAMENT **UPDATES** – NEW SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

SEE PAGE 14-15 FOR DETAILS

*Tauranga*  
**MULTIGRADE3A  
LADIES PAIRS**

SEE FLYER PAGE 16

Play from home in this online women's  
bridge event on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July**.

**Multiple prizes** will be awarded based on  
rating points – go for gold in your category.



# AUCKLAND NORTHLAND *Regional Hui*

**EAST COAST BAYS BRIDGE CLUB**  
TRAVEL SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE FOR NORTHLAND ATTENDEES

**27 JULY**  
SUNDAY

**10 – 4**  
AM PM



**JAN CORMACK**  
Women's & International Bridge

**ANNE BARROWCLOUGH**  
Effective Chairing & NZB Club Toolbox

**ALAN GRANT**  
Update on Teaching Materials

**CLARE COLES**  
Club Captain Tips & Tricks

**PLAYER RETENTION**  
How to Keep Players at Your Club

**SUE BROWN**  
Implications of Incorporated  
Society re-registration

**LYSANDRA ZHENG**  
Newsletter & Poster Design

**CLUB PROGRAMMES**  
Display and Review

**Enjoy a complimentary morning tea, lunch, and snacks!**

**REGISTER WITH MARY CHAMBERLAIN BY WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY**  
[mary.chamberlain.nz@gmail.com](mailto:mary.chamberlain.nz@gmail.com)

# Online TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS TRAINING 2025



**August – October 2025**

- 5 Online Modules – each Module is approximately 4 hours in length
- Specialist Presenters Notes videos quizzes forums
- Revision after Course completion and online practical session (to be trialed)
- These modules will cover all the topics required for candidates to prepare for the NZ Bridge Tournament Directors assessment weekend 25th-27th Oct (Canterbury)

**This course is free to candidates as all expenses are covered by NZ Bridge.**

**Module 1: The Tournament Director** Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> August 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

**Module 2: The Auction** Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> August 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

**Module 3: The Play** Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> August 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

**Module 4: Regulations** Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

**Module 5: Score adjustment** Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 9.30 am to 1.30 pm

**Revision** Sat 11<sup>th</sup> October

**Practical Training** arrangements to follow

**Please contact Allan Joseph**

Email [foodmaidnz@gmail.com](mailto:foodmaidnz@gmail.com)





# Program Online TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS TRAINING 2025

**August – October 2025**

- 5 Online Modules – each Module is approximately 4 hours in length
- Revision session
- Revision after Course completion and online practical session (to be trialed)
- These Modules will cover all the topics required for candidates to prepare for the NZ Bridge Tournament Directors assessment weekends. Next assessment 25th-27th Oct (Canterbury)

**This course is free to candidates as all expenses are covered by NZ Bridge.**

## **Modules 1: Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

The Role of the Tournament Director  
Conducting Open Tournaments  
Running Swiss pairs events  
Matchpointing with adjusted scores

**9.30 am to 1.30 pm**

Mitchell, Howell and Web movements  
Running Teams events  
Scoring Fouled Board – Pairs and Teams  
Neuberg Formula

## **Module 2: The Auction Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Calls out of rotation  
Withdrawn calls – lead penalties  
Insufficient bids- directors guide  
Exposed cards  
Unauthorized Information

**9.30 am to 1.30 pm**

Unintended Calls  
Calls based on misinformation  
Inadmissible calls  
Mistaken explanation v mistaken call  
Logical alternatives

## **Module 3: The Play Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> August**

Dummy's rights and limitations  
Leads out of turn –penalty cards  
Unintended designation  
Revokes with and without rectification

**9.30 am to 1.30 pm**

Cards from wrong board  
Play out of turn (incl. premature play)  
Claims and concessions  
Awareness of potential damage

## **Module 4: Regulations Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> Sept**

NZ Bridge Systems policy  
Psyche Bidding  
Making decisions at the Table

**9.30 am to 1.30 pm**

NZ. Alerting Regulations, Announcing  
Rectification v Procedural penalty  
Consulting and polling

## **Module 5: Score adjustment Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> Sept**

Adjusted scores- when and how  
Self- inflicted damage. Split Scores  
Processing an Appeal  
Coping with difficult situations

**9.30 am to 1.30 pm Single weighted scores**

Single weighted scores  
Directors Error  
Breaches of Etiquette

**Revision Sat 11<sup>th</sup> October**

**Practical Training** arrangements to follow

**Please contact Allan Joseph**

Email [foodmaidnz@gmail.com](mailto:foodmaidnz@gmail.com)

**DIRECTOR, PLEASE!**



14 July 2025

## **Discussion Paper: Masterpoint Ranks and Grades**

NZ Bridge manages a player incentive scheme where masterpoints are awarded for success in club sessions through to national tournaments. The requirements for each grade are detailed in the appendix below, which is copied from the NZ Bridge website.

Recent changes have seen the introduction of two new grades, the Platinum and Emerald grades.

Questions have been asked about:

- the introduction of further ranks above Emerald,
- the adjustment of gaps between ranks, which are not consistent, and
- how ranks might affect eligibility for graded tournaments. In particular should a player with <50 A points, with rank of Local Master and therefore intermediate in grade and with 20+ stars be eligible for intermediate tournaments?

NZ Bridge is asking for feedback on the rankings system and in particular answers to the three points noted above. Please provide submissions to [john.skipper@nzbridge.co.nz](mailto:john.skipper@nzbridge.co.nz) by 10 August 2025.

Once submissions have been considered, a draft proposal will be published before a final recommendation is made to the Board of NZ Bridge, hopefully by the end of August 2025.





Appendix 1: Current Rankings from the NZ Bridge website. There are twelve ranks accorded to holders of Master Points

Rank	Aggregate of A & B Points	When stars are added
Certificate of Proficiency	5	NA
Club Master	20	NA
Local Master	50	1* = 100 to 149, 2* = 150 to 199 etc
Provincial Master	100 (including at least 50 A Points)	1* = 200 to 299, 2* = 300 to 399 etc
Master	200 (including at least 100 A Points)	1* = 400 to 599, 2* = 600 to 799 etc
National Master	350 (including at least 175 A Points)	1* = 700 to 1049, 2* = 1050 to 1400 etc
Life Master	500 (including at least 250 A Points)	1* = 1000 to 1499, 2* = 1500 to 1999 etc
Grand Master	1000 (including at least 500 A Points)	1* = 2000 to 3999, 2* = 4000 to 5999 etc
Silver Grand Master	2500 (including at least 1250 A Points)	1* = 5000 to 7499, 2* = 7500 to 9999 etc
Gold Grand Master	4000 (including at least 2500 A Points)	1* = 8000 to 11999, 2* = 12000 to 15999 etc
Emerald Grand Master	8,000 (including at least 6,000 A Points)	
Platinum Grand Master	10,000 (including at least 7,500 A Points)	



**15 July 2025**

### **New Guidelines for Tournament Scheduling**

A project team comprising NZ Bridge Board members and representatives from the regions met for a two-day workshop to review the rules around scheduling and running tournaments.

The team reviewed pages C3 to C8 inclusive from the NZ Bridge Manual. Attached is the approved update.

The most important change relates to allowing much more flexibility to Clubs to manage their own tournaments through their Regional Committees.

Tournaments are loaded into the annual schedule by the Tournament Scheduler as confirmed events. It is up to the Regional Committees to make changes and tell the Tournament Scheduler what to change.

Clubs may amend, cancel or add tournaments subject to Regional Committee approval. Regions have autonomy to make changes to the tournament schedule subject to some basic rules related to distance from other events on at the same time. Existing events in the schedule have precedence. Most restrictions apply to A point events.

The number of events that a club or region can hold is not limited.

Metro events contested in person are supported. Online B point level events are supported but limited to daytime hours (midweek only).

#### **Online**

Online Club tournaments may not be run on weekends where any other tournaments are being held. From 2026 up to three weekends a year will be set aside for online tournaments with any Club able to run one on that weekend. For 2025 the weekend of the 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> December has been set aside for online. No face-to-face tournaments may be scheduled on that weekend and there is no limit on Clubs scheduling online tournaments. Such events need to meet the tournament regulations.

This online policy will be reviewed in twelve months or earlier.

Midweek tournaments may be online or in person, with online events limited to daytime only.





The current mix of online and face-to-face Major National Events to continue.

In Summary

Any amendments, additions or deletions (with a few restrictions) may be made but they must go through the Regional Tournament Co-ordinator, using the "tournament change" request form. This will be updated shortly, meantime the existing form should continue to be used.

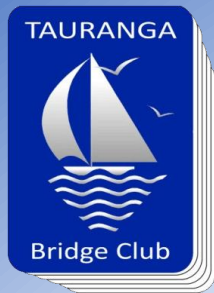
These new processes can commence immediately but subject to each region advising the name and contact details of their tournament co-ordinator.

Sue Brown

Board Member & Taskforce Chair

A reminder that our Regional Tournament Co-ordinator is Grant Jarvis [gjarvis@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gjarvis@xtra.co.nz)  
Can all requests be first forwarded to Grant to begin the process.





# TAURANGA BRIDGE CLUB

## Ladies Multigrade Pairs 3A

**ONLINE: REAL BRIDGE**

**Wednesday 30 July 2025**

**Start time**

**10:00am –  
please be online  
by 9.45 am**

*Sponsored by*



### **MULTIPLE PRIZE GROUPS!**

*There will be special prizes based on rating points.  
This means you will be competing against players  
with similar experience levels.*

**Entry Fee:** \$30 per person  
**Venue:** online Real Bridge  
**Entry cut off:** Monday 28 July 5pm

**The link to play will be emailed to  
you after registration and will also  
be available on our website**



Please pre-pay: **03-1549-0006295-01** using your NZ Bridge no. as reference

Please Register online: [www.nzbridge.co.nz/tournaments](http://www.nzbridge.co.nz/tournaments)  
Email: [tgatournaments@gmail.com](mailto:tgatournaments@gmail.com) or phone 07 576 5022



# North Island Pairs

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025



Director	Matthew McManus
Scorer	Kevin Walker
Where	Real Bridge links at <a href="http://www.nzbridge.co.nz">www.nzbridge.co.nz</a>
When	Saturday & Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> August
Start times	Saturday 9.30am - Sunday 9.30am
Format	Dependent on Entries
Entry Fee	\$48.00 per person

Enquiries to [bridget@nzbridge.co.nz](mailto:bridget@nzbridge.co.nz)  
Registrations [www.nzbridge.co.nz](http://www.nzbridge.co.nz)  
(close 4.00pm Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July)

Payment to New Zealand Bridge – Major Events  
**Account number 02-0466-0268199-004**

*Please note –new account number*