



2022 CONGRESS BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND
BRIDGE
A GAME FOR LIFE

OCTOBER 1 – OCTOBER 8 2022 • LION FOUNDATION CENTRE • BAY PARK, MT MAUNGANUI



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BULLETIN #2, Saturday 1 October 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 2 October:

NZ Open Pairs 9:30am + 2:00pm

NZ Restricted Pairs 9:30am + 2:30pm

Novice Pairs 2:30pm

Monday 3 October:

NZ Open Pairs 9:30am

NZ Restricted Pairs 9:30am

NZ Open Teams 2:00pm

NZ Restricted Teams 2:00pm

Tuesday 4 October:

NZ Open Teams 9:30am + 2:00pm

NZ Restricted Teams 9:30am + 2:00pm

Reminder: Entering events: early, please!

We have encouraged you to enter events early and this is still the case during the week, 24 hours before the start of any event. You can cancel/ get a refund if you change your mind or qualify for the knock-out stages of New Zealand Teams (in the latter case no refund would be applicable) but to avoid disappointment, please do not leave your entry until the last minute.

SENIOR PAIRS CANCELLED

Due to the low number of entries this event, scheduled for Thursday, has been cancelled.

QUIZ

Two chances to win vouchers today – this quiz and, later in the Bulletin, “Caption That”.

To go into the draw for a \$50 restaurant voucher (which can be donated to someone at Congress) simply answer both these bridge-related questions correctly. Answers to nzcongressed@gmail.com (preferred) or 0212804746 or dropped off to me **by 9:30am Monday**. Be sure to include your name and phone number. Winner informed by text and published in Monday’s bulletin.

1. Which celebrity bridge player, born in Alexandria, if he was still alive would have celebrated his 90th birthday on 10 April this year?



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2. Sharon Osberg has taught bridge and partnered which two famous billionaire players?

GRAND SLAM CLUB for Saturday (all successful grand slammers will go into the draw to win 2 x \$50 restaurant vouchers. Drawn on Thursday)

Session 1 Board 24:

Steve Gray / Lindsey Guy; Bill Mecchia / Max Robb; Jan Cormack / Pamela Nisbet; Wyn Jones / Kaye Wilson; Carol De Luca / Susan Rowe; Sam Gurney / Tony Quinlaven; Susan Stephens / Dennis Watkinson (all 7♥).

John Wang / Gary Chen; Steph Jacob / David Beauchamp; Russell Dive / Russell Wilson; Linda Cartner / Glenis Palmer; Ian Berrington / Graeme Tuffnell; John Khouri / Peter Hensman; Julie Atkinson / Patrick Carter; Phillip Hensman / Hamish Ryan; Bruce Inglis / Alan Currie; Alan Grant / Anthony Ker; Paul Dalley / Ashley Bach; Fiona Temple / John Kruiniger; James Yang / Yuzhong Chen; K C Lee / Bigi Cameron (all 7NT).

Session 1 Board 25:

Brecht Lucykx / Ant Hopkins; Jack James / Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin (Both 7♦).
Justin Mill / James Coutts (7NT).

Session 2 Board 5:

Jamie Thompson / Lakshmi Synderasan (7♥)

PLAYER PROFILE:

In this series of profiles, we learn about the players attending this year's Congress who have been "ever present".

Today, we meet Rotorua's Heini Lux.

When and why did you take up bridge?

I started playing social bridge in my hometown in Vienna way back in the early 70s, but it wasn't until I settled in NZ in the early 80s and joined the Rotorua Bridge club that I took the game up seriously. Right from the start I liked the controlled structure of the game because it didn't just depend on luck.



What are some achievements / highlights you'd like to share?

I've been a member of the same club for over 40 years now and have reached the level of Grand Master. I'm now a life member of the club and have been on the committee for nearly 30 years with twice serving as president.

I've won the Back to the Future teams twice. I like playing at bridge congresses very much because you meet people with a wide range of abilities from all over the country. My most memorable congress moment was when my partner and I came top of a field of about 250 pairs for the first session of the Congress. The feeling was wonderful while it lasted even though we didn't qualify in the end.

What makes a successful bridge partnership?

I think a good partnership takes a long time to develop because players need to agree on a workable system and stick to it

What other interests do you have outside of bridge?

I have other interests such as tennis and table tennis and I'm a very keen stamp collector.



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What advice do you have for young players?

My advice to young players is to join a bridge club and play face to face rather than just online bridge. At a club you meet like-minded people who stimulate your interest by helping you improve through gradually understanding the background to all parts of the game.

COMPETITION: CAPTION THAT

A \$50 restaurant voucher (which can be donated to someone at Congress) for the most amusing caption. Answers to nzcongressed@gmail.com (preferred) or 0212804746 or dropped off to me by **9:30am Monday**. Be sure to include your name and phone number. Winner informed by text and published in Monday's bulletin.



NZ Bridge's latest Gold Grand Master. Wellington's Johnny Davidson shares his personal journey of triumph over adversity. Inspirational words to start us off.



And underway in the NZ Open Pairs at Congress 2022!



9:20am Saturday. Ready to go after 3 years of waiting!

Newly minted Gold GM Johnny in action, making the winning bid.





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FIRST HAND OF THE CONGRESS!

Looking for a table to report on the first hand, I spotted my old (although still youthful!) friend Jane Stearns, now resident in Whangarei in the Restricted Open, sitting the South seat at table 21. They started with Board 7. Her partner is Gwyneth Mace from North Shore Club and their opponents were K C Lee and Bigi Cameron from Mt Albert.

South Deals All Vul	♠ T 2 ♥ J 8 5 4 ♦ T 9 ♣ A 8 7 5 2										
♠ A 4 ♥ A 6 3 ♦ K Q 3 ♣ Q J 9 6 3	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 9 8 7 ♥ 9 7 ♦ A 7 6 5 4 ♣ K T
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ K J 6 5 3 ♥ K Q T 2 ♦ J 8 2 ♣ 4										

<i>Jane</i>	<i>Bigi</i>	<i>Gwyneth</i>	<i>Bigi</i>
1♠	1NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

A positive, slightly aggressive (isn't it amazing how the calmest, kindest people are often the most aggressive bridge bidders?) 1♠ opening from Jane and a 1NT overcall from Bigi. The ♠ and ♥ may have been of some concern and others may choose to Double – although if that promises 4 of the other major that is also problematic. Straight to 3NT then for K C who clearly likes his ♠ hold and his 5 card ♦ suit. 10♠ lead from Gwyneth who obviously holds to the old teaching of lead your partner's suit. Bigi covered with the Queen which drew Jane's king and then the Ace won. It was at that point

the ♣ switch needed to be made due to the fact there was trouble at mill with the ♥ suit. Unfortunately, Bigi chose to set up dummy's ♠s which was won by Jane who immediately switched to K♥ and the contract was doomed from that point. So, a nervous start for this pair but proof that "things can only get better". This was the only zero MP board for Bigi and KC as the rest of the room recorded plus scores in part-score or game. They finished the session with a very respectable 56.55, 4th EW and 10th overall. At the end of the day, they had climbed to 3rd. And they were the only pair in their section to bid and make 7NT on Board 24 in session 1!



Name:
Chris Henry
Club:
Marlborough
Years playing Bridge:
10 properly.

Congresses attended:
This is my first one!
Favourite system:
Acol with 5 card majors.

Bridge Highlight:
Winning my first A point tournament in Nelson in 2019.

Favourite TV show? Wheeler Dealers.
Favourite hobby outside Bridge? Golf.
Camilla or Diana? Diana.

What's on top of the bucket list? Safari in Africa.

Complete the sentence: One thing I wish I never have to do again is ... Fly with Air New Zealand. Unfortunately, I have to fly with them to get home.

Did humans really land on the moon? Yes.
Heavy Metal or Disco? Heavy Metal
Final Question. What's at the end of a rainbow? A big disappointment.



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NZ BRIDGE JIN CLUB

Junior • Intermediate • Novice

We are delighted to be able to announce that there will be **three free seminars** during the National Bridge Congress given by top teachers and players. They are particularly aimed at Intermediate and Junior players and are scheduled on days when they will be at the Congress.

Each will start at **8.30am** and will last between 30 and 40 minutes, enabling all to be able to start play at 9.30 am.

They will all take place in a seminar room upstairs above the main playing area at Bay Park.

Wednesday October 5th:

Malcolm Mayer - "When to be aggressive: when to be passive"

Thursday October 6th:

GeO Tislevoll - "How to improve your game with common-sense"

Friday October 7th:

Barry Jones - "The penalty double has died and gone to heaven" When and why to double.

They are all well-worth the early start with interesting and entertaining speakers. There is no charge.

Also, there will be a JIN Club meet and greet with the Bridge Zone Crew at their house with finger food (or bbq) and refreshments on the evening of **Thursday 6 October** from 6:30 to 9pm. It's a chance to talk about your views on bridge, give feedback on the Congress and a general Q and A. Limited to 15 guests – see Barry Jones or Mereana Cullen asap for a pass.

PLAYS OF THE DAY (THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY):

Thanks to players for their contributions. Always looking for a lot more and hopefully some more successful ones!

Most North South Pairs will remember this hand from the morning reasonably fondly.

Board 25	♠ A K	
North Deals	♥ T 8	
EW Vul	♦ A T 7 6 5	
	♣ J T 9 4	
♠ A 2		♠ JT9743
♥ KQ6542		♥ 9 7
♦ 9 2		♦ J 4
♣ 8 7 3		♣ Q 6 2
	♠ Q 6 5	
	♥ A J 3	
	♦ K Q 8 3	
	♣ A K 5	

Across the two sections, 52 of the 83 pairs found the ♦ or NT slam. Top marks to **Justin Mill and James Coutts** who got all the match points on offer for their 7NT. **Brecht Luyckx / Ant Hopkins** and the usually conservative **Jack James / Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin** partnerships were not far behind with 7♦. One pair, however had a tale of woe.

After the 1♦ opener from North there was no interference from East so straight into 4NT key card went South. The 5♦ response promised 0 or 3 so a disappointed South passed. North's "explanation" was that they were responding to Key Card in ♠. The (very slightly) good news is that by making 12 tricks 3 match points were earned.

Board 12 held another tale of woe for a different NS pair.



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Board 12	♠ T	
West Deals	♥ K Q T 8 2	
NS Vul	♦ A K Q 3	
	♣ A J 7	
♠ 7 2		♠ K J 9 3
♥ A J 7 4		♥ 3
♦ T 2		♦ J 8 6 4
♣ T 9 6 5 4		♣ Q 8 3 2
	♠ AQ8654	
	♥ 9 6 5	
	♦ 9 7 5	
	♣ K	

6♥ is makeable according to the Bo Haglund board analysis program (slightly unorthodox play required in the major suits) and indeed the vast majority of the field is making 10 or 11 tricks in hearts. All 12 pairs across the sections that bid 6♥ failed in their contract. Ironically, the only slam bid and made was 6NT by **Michael Whibley and Matthew Vadas** which, according to the program should go one off...

Back to the tale of woe though. 1♥ opened from North who was undoubtedly happy with their hand and looking forward to at least game with hopes of slam. Quickly followed by 3 passes! South apologised: "Sorry partner, my pen ran away from me". I'll leave it to readers to judge if this is a more adequate explanation than the previously described mistaken key card one.

DIRECTORS CORNER:

With Murray Wiggins

Misexplanations – what to do and when?

North Deals EW Vul

♠ J 10
 ♥ K J 9 7 5
 ♦ 9 7 6 2
 ♣ 4 3

You are playing with a new partner and pick up this hand. You have had a brief discussion and are playing Acol and have agreed to play Stayman and transfers over 1 NT. Your partner opens 1 NT and you are planning to bid 2♦, transferring to hearts.

Unfortunately, East doubles.

You have not discussed what to do if the opponents intervene but decide that systems should be 'off' and decide to bid your Heart suit.

Your partner immediately alerts and, when requested, explains it as a transfer to Spades. West passes and partner bids 2♠.

It is passed to you.

What should you do?

Firstly, you must ignore the fact that your partner has misunderstood you bid. In this situation, your partner can have, at most 4 spades. You have a weak hand and your partner has, at most 14 HCP. It is reasonable to pass.

In a future issue I will discuss A similar scenario in which you have to bid ignoring information from your partner which is based on a misunderstanding.

The question today is when should you tell the opponents that the explanation of your bid was incorrect?

Situation 1. You pass and the hand gets passed out. You are now on the **declaring side**. You must call the Director immediately and then explain to the opponents that you have no agreement about this bid over interference and that partner has misinformed them by alerting this as a transfer.

The Director will allow West to remove their pass and make a different call if they want to. In other words they are allowed to 're-open the auction'.

Bidding continues until there are 3 passes. Your partner must make every effort to ignore the fact that you have Hearts - this is unauthorised information to him. However, that information is authorised to the opponents.



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Situation 2. You pass and West makes a call and E/W end up declaring. You are now the **defending side**.

You must **not** inform the opponents about your partner's mis-explanation until the end of play. You must then call the Director who will decide if the opponents have been disadvantaged and, if indicated, award an adjusted score. In both of these situations you are advising the opponents of the misinformation **after** that knowledge is of any value to your partner. As Declarer, they will discover the error when dummy is spread and, of course, this is authorised information to partner. As Defender, they discover the distribution during play of the hand, this is also authorised information to partner. It would not be authorised if they found out while you were explaining it to the opposition. FYI - These are the 4 hands.

North Deals EW Vul	♠ A 3 2 ♥ Q 6 4 ♦ K Q T 8 ♣ Q J 5						
♠ 7 6 5 4 ♥ 3 2 ♦ 5 3 ♣ A 8 7 6 2	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	N	E		S	
W	N	E					
	S						
	♠ K Q 9 8 ♥ A T 8 ♦ A J 4 ♣ K T 9						
	♠ J T ♥ K J 9 7 5 ♦ 9 7 6 2 ♣ 4 3						

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Your opinion has been noted. And ignored”.



OF THE DAY:

Battle of the Reds (No, it is not 1917!)

Board 8 West Deals Nil Vul	♠ A T 8 5 4 ♥ A T 7 4 ♦ T ♣ 9 7 6						
♠ 6 3 ♥ K Q ♦ QJ9432 ♣ J 8 4	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	N	E		S	
W	N	E					
	S						
	♠ Q J 7 2 ♥ J ♦ A K 8 7 ♣ Q T 5 2						
	♠ K 9 ♥ 986543 ♦ 6 5 ♣ A K 3						

From Session 1 on Saturday. Doesn't look too exciting. NS have 18 HCPs, EW have 22. However, West and South both have 6 card red suits with NS having the advantage of theirs being ♥! A wild range of results were to be found across the two sections, which is much more interesting than flat(tish) boards surely. Makeable contracts, according to Bo Haglund, are 2♠ and 5♥ from North. EW, with the advantage in HCPs can only muster 1♣, 1NT or 2♦

Not many people play a weak 2♦ opener these days so it has to be pass or 3♦ (looks right to my inexperienced eye) in most cases. Interestingly in the Open section, 4 pairs played it in 2♠, a contract not to be found in the Restricted Open.

What to do after 3♦ is the question that springs to mind. And, assuming South balances with 3♥, where to from there? The big money went to the pairs who got 4♥ and got doubled. 4 NS pairs in the Open profited from this while another 14 in the Open and 6 in the Restricted Open got good value from being in the major



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game. 27 pairs played it in 5♦. As NS do you double? In the Open section 9 of the 19 did, 6 profiting nicely by taking all 5 of their tricks while the others broke about even taking 4.

Only 1 of the 4 pairs made the 2♠ contract – well done **Neil Ruddell / Tania Brown**. Not a lot of match points for it but more than those going light! Needless to say, the 6 EW pairs who played it in 3♦ got well rewarded, especially **Carol De Luca / Susan Rowe** and **Michael Johnstone / Paula Gregory** in the Open and **Teri Sonal / Charmaine Hanbury Webber** in the Restricted who made the contract. **KC Lee and Bigi Cameron** (who seem to be popping up a bit in this Bulletin) also scored 110, ostensibly for making 3♣ (that may be an entry error, or they may have found a way to be unique!)

So overall, 13 different contracts played with 22 different results recorded. Will anyone look back at this board at the end of the day, see their position on the ladder, and wish they had done something differently?



One wag commented at lunchtime that we were in the Bay of Plenty of Rain.

That certainly seems to be the case at the moment. Tauranga has, on average, 110 days and 1177mm of rainfall a year. This is pretty close to the NZ average.

The fact that it is raining should be no cause for complaint for bridge players. However, any family they have brought with them who had hoped to do some exploration of the area may not be so forgiving. If you do have spare time on this visit or, even better, are planning on coming back in summer, there is plenty to see and do. An excellent place to start your

research is the official [website](#) of Bay of Plenty tourism, who are one of the major sponsors of Congress 2022.

So, bring your family, your credit cards, your sense of adventure, your tastebuds (and yes, your raincoat!) and dive in and see what this great region of Aotearoa has to offer!

Fun Facts about the Region!

- The bay extends from Waihi Beach eastward to Opotiki.
- The Rangitaiki and Whakatane rivers empty into the bay.
- The two largest islands in the Bay are Whakaari / White Island and Motiti.
- The Takitimu waka landed at Mauao (Mt Maunganui) which guards the entrance to Tauranga Harbour, in approx. 1290AD.
- It was named by Captain James Cook in 1769 in recognition of the generous provisions and water he received from Maori.
- European settlement of the region began in the early 1830s with the arrival of missionaries and traders.
- Tauranga is home to approx. 130,000 people.
- Tauranga has produced some colourful MPs in recent times. Winston Peters (1984-2005), the testicle-obsessed Bob Clarkson (2005-2008), “Retro Robot” Simon Bridges (2008 – 2022) and currently underwear-trophy boy Sam Uffindell.
- Their NPC team wears blue and yellow and are called the Steamers, referring to the region’s thermal activity.

