

# North Shore Bridge Club President's Newsletter



26 March 2025

Greetings,

The days shorten, the nights draw in, soon we will be removing Summer Time from our clocks. The bridge year, like our Indian Summer, rolls on.

## Get well, Trish

Trish O'Connor is in North Shore Hospital following a fall in which she has broken her pelvis. We wish her a speedy recovery. We hope to see you back amongst us soon, Trish.

## Upcoming events

### Monday night teams - April 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

There are 8 teams signed up - more than our usual number of regular Monday night players - which is great. However the withdrawal of Trish O'Connor has meant we need to find someone to take her place on both nights. Is that you? If you are able to take Trish's place, please let the club know ASAP.

### Anzac Day Bridge - Friday 25 April .

Play begins at 1 p.m. Visitors are welcome and a partner is not required.

Sign up for play on the list on the noticeboard, with or without a partner. Wear your poppy and your family medals.

### Beginner Course -Tuesdays 7.15pm

Starts Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May for 12 weeks. Cost \$120.

Encourage your friends, family, neighbours, Facebook friends to learn this wonderful game. It would be great to see more of the younger generation taking it up.

Please inform anyone who shows interest that they need to register with the Club BEFORE the start of the course.

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The tutor is Douglas Russell, a player of international standing. Comprehensive notes will be supplied.

Contact Heather Richards 021-0283 4811 or email [nshorebridge@gmail.com](mailto:nshorebridge@gmail.com)

### **Open Tournament - Saturday April 12.**

Open to players of all grades.

Currently we have 13.5 tables. Ideally, we would like to see a full house of 16 tables so there is room for another 5 pairs to enter. Entry details may be found on the poster on our noticeboard.

Help is still sought with catering for the event and with kitchen duties on the day. Please let Jenny Hemmings know or sign up on the help sheet on the noticeboard.

The tournament is sponsored by Shore Travel. Please support Shore Travel when you need a travel agent.



### **Name Badges**

The club is currently compiling an order for name badges. This is your opportunity to replace that missing badge or get your first one. Please fill in and return a Name Badge Order form available from a clip beside the name badge board in the foyer.

When you are playing at the Club, **please** wear your name badge. It is not a big ask. The badge is our "uniform" and while you might know who you are, people new to the Club won't have any idea what your name is. It's just courteous.

### **Bidding Boxes**

From Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March, bidding boxes will replace written bidding at all sessions.

By now, most of you will have had some experience, however limited, with a bidding box. If you are unsure of how to use them there will be someone at the table who can guide you.

If you are left-handed, there are boxes tailored to your dexterity. They are coloured green and are available from the shelf behind the Director's chair. If you are using a green box and are a moving pair remember to take it with you when you move.

A reminder to ALL players - all bids must remain on the table until the FIRST TRICK IS COMPLETED. The only exception to this is if a player has made only PASS bids. These may be returned to the box at the conclusion of the auction.

Before the opening lead is made South must enter the contract and Declarer on the tablet. This is essential before bids are removed as they are the only proof of the contract and the Declarer so that the opening lead may be made by the correct hand.

## **Table Numbers**

We have a new set of table numbers to replace the old ones which were showing signs of wear and tear.

Please note, from now on the table number should be displayed in the NW corner of the table rather than the SE corner where it is obscured by the tablet.

## **Your Compa\$\$ account**

Each week, after all the bank deposits and top-ups have been processed and the deductions have been made for sessions played, the system shows us who needs to put money into their account. Players who need a top-up are then sent a 'Low Balance Alert' email.

It seems that for some members, these emails may be going into their "Junk" or "Spam" folders and therefore are not being seen or read. In some cases, these emails have been going there repeatedly for weeks and the size of the deficit in the account just keeps growing.

When your account is "in the red", that means your fellow members are paying for you to play since you aren't paying for yourself. It's not fair.

Have a look in your Spam or Junk folder to see if it has any NSBC emails. If so, drag them out and put them into your Inbox. Your email program will then learn to put future emails from NSBC into your Inbox and **not** to Spam/Junk.

Better yet, we suggest you avoid the problem altogether. Keep an eye on your account via [mycompasss.com](http://mycompasss.com) and make sure it stays in credit. Set up a fortnightly automatic payment of \$13 if you play once per week, or \$26 if you play twice per week.

May all your slams be grand.

Richard