**Bay of Plenty Pairs 2022**

Organiser: Christine Gibbons

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**Report after final round at Te Puke on 23 June 2024**

Another 15 tables at Te Puke finished a great year for the Bay Pairs Tournament.

I have attached the final standings for those who qualified.

**The Overall Winners** are

First Overall Hugh and Di McAlister 492

2nd Judy McLeod & Christine Gibbons 458

3rd Marion Kelly & Julie Sheridan 456

4th Jane & Stephen Searle 431

Top Intermediate Pair

 Diane Rodger & Lyn Bailie 420

Top Junior Player

 Dawne Sharplin 392

**Some Interesting Statistics – Pairs per Tournament**

Whakatane 39 Pairs Played

Mt Maunganui 32 Pairs Played

Tauranga 30 Pairs Played

Te Puke 30 Pairs Played

**Number of Rounds Played by Pairs** (Incl substitutes)

All 4 Rounds 15 Pairs

3 Rounds 7 Pairs

2 Rounds 10 Pairs

1 Round 30 Pairs

**Total Participants this year is 62 Pairs** This is fantastic.

A worthy Hand to finish with

**Can I – Should I?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **North** |  |  |
|  |  | 652 |  |  |
| **West** |  | J8765 |  | **East** |
| AQ93 |  | 742 |  | KT84 |
| KQ94 |  | QT |  | AT2 |
| QJ5 |  |  |  | AK3 |
| 82 |  | **South** |  | AK6 |
|  |  | J7 |  |  |
| **Dealer E** |  | 3 |  |  |
| **Vul E/W** |  | T986 |  |  |
|  |  | J97543 |  |  |

As West, you just about fall out of your chair when Partner opens either 2NT, or a Multi 2D and then shows 20-22 Points. With your 14 Points your mind turns to the Grand Slam. When you find partner with 3 Aces and 3 Kings, 21 Points, you need to pause. They cannot have any queens, and maybe no Jacks. The old fashioned Rule I was taught was only bid Grand in NT when you can count 13+ tricks. You know East is balanced, and maybe you know they have 4 Spades. (I didn’t after the 2D multi opening and 3NT rebid.)

Here you can count 3 Spades, 3 Hearts, 3-4 Diamonds if partner has 4 diamonds, but only 3 if partner has 3 diamonds, and 2 Clubs. 11-12 Tricks. Hopefully the Spades or Hearts may provide extra tricks, but if partners hand is minors, 4-4, or 3334 shape you cannot guarantee the 13th trick.

Call me a whimp, but I, along with most of the room settled for bidding 6NT. One pair played 7 and got the extra trick from a Heart lead from North, but I doubt they would have made it on a neutral spade or Diamond lead. So the answer is yes you can bid 7 and hope for a favourable layout from Partner, but I do not think that you should.

Thanks for you great support of the Event this year and I hope that everyone enjoyed playing. The Bay Pairs is about enjoyment and learning and getting confidence, rather than just winning.

Next year if players want to give me their email, I am happy to send the results to them, and answer any bridge problem hands that they would like to discuss.

Christine Gibbons