

## Waikato Bays Regional Committee Newsletter

April 2025

The 2025 calendar of events is well under way and there are a number of things coming up that are aimed at assisting the Region's Clubs as well as fulfilling the standard interclub and national events to which we are committed.

### Regional Championships

First in terms of the calendar are the Regional Championship Trials to be held on the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of May. In response to the Club's preference for representation and pairs trials the format is pairs trials but with a minimum of 10 pairs required in a category for the trial to take place. At this stage the Intermediate Category meets this threshold with 11 pairs entered and the Seniors are near the requirement at 7 pairs entered. We are also allowing qualifying pairs to enter more than one category – so for example if you and your partner would qualify for the Senior and Open, you could enter both. But in the event of enough entries in both categories you would need to choose which one you would play in.

The top two pairs in each category will form the team to play in the finals to be held immediately before Congress. As an added incentive to enter, those in the teams will have a discounted entry to Congress. Please note however that the full costs of participating in the finals may not be covered by the Region. That said we encourage people to enter – entries close on April 28 so there is a little time to publicize the trials and accept entries.

For those categories that do not reach the threshold of 10 pairs for the trials to be held, the team for that category will be selected from the pool of players entered for the trials – and you could be selected for a category different to that you entered for if you qualify for that category. The selection panel is Barry Jones, Jenna Gibbons, Michael Ware, Hugh McAlister and Alan Dick.

### Constitution Changes

Most Clubs are well under way with the changes to their constitutions or have had their new constitutions accepted. If your club is still working on this matter and you are struggling with it, please contact us or a Club that has completed the process for assistance. The cutoff for the new requirements is early next year and whilst it is not a compulsory requirement, the ability of a Club to enter into contracts and the like may be affected if it does not re-incorporate under the latest Act.



## Teachers Day

A Bridge Teachers Conference is being held this year on the 18/19 October at the Wellington Bridge Club. Your Regional Committee has no budget to assist sending people to this event, however in the past some Clubs have supported their Bridge Teachers to attend this event and have found it of real value. Please consider sending your teachers to this event as an investment in the future.

## Directors and Scorers Forums Training and Update Day

On Sunday 8 June this event will be held at the Rotorua Clubrooms - 9:30 morning tea, the program starts at 10 am. We are taking advantage of Allan Josephs Directing expertise and also local experts on scoring to provide content. The format will be similar to last years with the addition of scoring as our Forums for Directors and Scorers have found that the issues of things like movements, assigning of scores, corrections and penalties are intertwined. In addition, the recent and ongoing improvements to Compass and the tools available within the package are such that Directors and Scorers require updates. The program is getting final signoff by the presenters and will be made available in the near future.

Unfortunately the date clashes with the Mount Maunganui round of the Bay Pairs and your Committee apologises for this. However the opportunity to use Allan Joseph's knowledge while he is in the Region for Directing on the Saturday, coupled with a very full Tournament program, means that clashes for such events are almost inevitable.

Budding Directors and Scorers as well as more experienced people are encouraged and welcome to join and attend our Forums. We will also have a Q and A session where we will canvass thoughts and ideas on improvement to our Directors and Scorers Forums. Please remember that we are encouraging unqualified as well as qualified Directors to join and attend our Forums. This also applies to those who provide scoring services to their Club – especially those using Compass as there is a lot of unknown and unused capabilities within the system. The modernization to the system that Bob Fearn has been working on has added to this capability as well.

Regards

Alan Dick, Chair WBRC

