

Newsletter Issue no.

2025/4

The Waikato Bays Region Intermediate and Junior Leagues Newsletter

The Waikato Bays region league season is continuing

This year the following tournaments are scheduled in each of the leagues as follows:

| Junior | |
|------------|--------------|
| Hamilton | Played |
| Cambridge | Played |
| Matamata | Played |
| Mount | Played |
| Maunganui | |
| Tauranga | Played |
| Te Awamutu | October 13th |

| Intermediate | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Taupo | Played |
| Hamilton | Played |
| Katikati | Played |
| Mount Maunganui | Played |
| Te Awamutu | Played |
| Tauranga | Played |
| Matamata | Sept 14th |
| Cambridge | October 19th |

We are now fast approaching the culmination of the league season and the competition in both leagues has been very keen.

Over the past two months we have had both Tauranga and Mount Maunganui combined tournaments and the Te Awamutu Intermediate Tournament. So it has certainly been busy for the players.

It is good to see that also featuring at both of the combined tournaments there was 5 tables of Novices playing in the afternoon session. So the Junior competition is clearly going to be enhanced watch out next year folks!!





Mount Maunganui Junior and Intermediate Tournament

Junior Section

There was 8 Tables in the Junior section with many of the top pairs not competing can some of the others use the opportunity to catch up in the league?

As it turned out there were some new names at the top of the leader board with local players taking full advantage of being at or close to home.

In the morning Dennis and Jess won the Howell movement, and in the afternoon Rebecca and Joanne took session honours.

Overall the final placings were:

| Name | Clubs | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Joanne McLean & Alan McLean | MtMa/MtMa | |
| Ken Couper & Bruce Bettany | Hami/Morr | |
| Jenny Fraser & Richard Roberts | MtMa/MtMa | |
| Joanne Bruce & Rebecca Bartlett | MtMa/MtMa | |
| | Joanne McLean & Alan McLean Ken Couper & Bruce Bettany Jenny Fraser & Richard Roberts | |

Intermediate Section

A large field of 20 Tables duked it out in the intermediate section. Well done Mt Maunganui for attracting such a large field.

All the best performing pairs in the league were present alongside some very capable locals who don't compete in the other tournaments in the league circuit.

In the morning Jane and Peter Furnish were best pair North/South and Ross Petersen and Janice Simpson were best E/W Pair.

In the afternoon Annie Barry and Dianne Rodger were best N/S and Paul Rogers and Dawne Sharplin were best E/W.

The top 4 pairs for the day were:

| Rank | Name |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Annie Barry & Diane Rodger |
| 2 | Colleen Allen & Roger Dempster |
| 3 | Bob Strawbridge & Sheila Lister |
| 4 | Graham Saunders & John Little |



Te Awamutu Intermediate Tournament

28 pairs entered the Te Awamutu tournament. Playing a Mitchell in the morning and 2 Howells in the afternoon. Well organised by Mike Neels who was a late ring in as the planned director was unwell.

After 52 boards of lively competition, Arthur and Beth Mann just pipped Judith Howard and Nick Saunders for the honours. Don MCPherson and Irenee Stewart came third.

Session winners not mentioned above were Nandy Costa and Denise Whybrow in the morning East West and Catherine Cameron and Helen Rinaldi in one of the Howells in the afternoon. Anne Williamson and Lyn Brennan earned a session prize for the morning Mitchell.

Overall the final placings were:

| Rank | Name | Clubs |
|------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Arthur Mann & Beth Mann | Waih/Waih |
| 2 | Nick Saunders & Judith Howard | TeAw/Mata |
| 3 | Don MacPherson & Irenee Stewart | Camb/Camb |
| 4 | Sabrina Peters & Nita Knight | Tham/Tham |







Tauranga Junior and Intermediate Tournament

Junior Section

There was 13 Tables in the Junior Section once again some of the higher rankled pairs were not in attendance and this was a chance for others to pick up a few league points.

As it turned out there were some new names at the top of the leader board with local players taking full advantage of being at or close to home.

In the morning Hannelore and Mark were top North South and Diane and Michele top East West. In the afternoon Hannelore and Mark could not be bested and Jacqueline and Linda were top East West.

The final standings looked like this:

| Rank | Name | Clubs | |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 1 | Hannelore Kemme & Mark Lynch | Omok/Omok | |
| 2 | Jacqueline Carter & Linda Browne | Whak/Whak | |
| 3 | Alan McLean & Joanne McLean | MtMa/MtMa | |
| 4 | Dianne Beveridge & Michele Rogers | MtMa/MtMa | |

Intermediate Section

A field of 15 Tables took to seeing who would have their mojo on.

All the top pairs in the league were present alongside some very capable locals.

In the morning Rosemary and Bettina were best pair North/South and Ted and Barbera were best E/W Pair. Those are familiar names!!

In the afternoon Bettina and Rosemary were really on top form N/S and Joy Bates and Colin Roberts took East West Honours.

The top 4 pairs for the day were:

| Rank | Name | Clubs | |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 1 | Bettina Dudley & Rosemary Wilkey | TePu/Taur | |
| 2 | Joy Bates & Colin Roberts | Taur/Taur | |
| 3 | Barbara McFarlane & Ted Cliffin | Tham/Tham | |
| 4 | Anne Beetham & Luda Watts | Mata/Mata | |









Profile Patch

Nick Saunders

Editors Note: Apologies for the self promotion, however the deadline for issue of this edition (self imposed) is this week and due to unforeseen circumstances this would have been empty otherwise!

Nick is an Intermediate player and (you wouldn't believe it) loves dressing up!!

Nick has played the best card game in the world for about 6 years, but originally learnt the game as a 17 year old at school.

Originally from the UK, but has been in Godzone for 27 years and a bonafide Kiwi All Black supporter.

Having emigrated, the first family home was in Whangarei for a couple of years and then moved to Wellington for work purposes.

After raising family etc work then took Nick to Te Awamutu in 2018. Nicks 2 sons and step daughter are all grown up and remain in Wellington.

Nick also has two very grown up daughters still in the UK, and, yes, you wouldn't believe it a total of 9 grandchildren aged from 3months to 14 years.

Nick works as a Fire Engineering Consulting engineer in non bridge life providing designs for a whole range of buildings from rows of townhouses to Shopping malls and high rise hotels and apartments.



Nick not only loves playing bridge but also enjoys giving back to the game. He has been teaching beginners lesson at club level for three years and has more recently taught online lessons for NZ Bridge. Nick is also the current president of Te Awamutu Bridge club and serves as correspondence secretary and region tournament coordinator on the Waikato Bays Region Committee.

Pass him a broom and he will sweep the floor for you too!!!

Nick considers his bridge skill as "Needs massive improvement" but will always play the game with as much good humour as protocol and etiquette allows.

He is always thankful that he can find partners willing to play with him.



Current Standings

Junior Section

With just 1 event left in the Junior Leagues it is looking likely we have found the champs already with Iain and Larrissa out front.

The current top 10 are:

| Rank | Name | Club | Points | Sessions |
|------|------------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| 1 | Iain Paterson | Hamilton | 22 | 4 |
| 1 | Larissa Eyre | Hamilton | 22 | 4 |
| 3 | Stewart Lawrence | Hamilton | 15 | 3 |
| 3 | Mark Beavan | Hamilton | 15 | 3 |
| 5 | Vicki Petherick | Waikato | 11 | 4 |
| 5 | Maria Muller | Hamilton | 11 | 4 |
| 5 | Bruce Bettany | Morrinsville | 11 | 3 |
| 8 | Kevin Lawrence | Hamilton | 10 | 4 |
| 8 | Alan McLean | Mt Maunganui | 10 | 2 |
| 8 | Joanne McLean | Mt Maunganui | 10 | 2 |
| 8 | Ken Couper | Hamilton | 10 | 3 |
| 8 | Sean Dwyer | Hamilton | 10 | 4 |

Be at Te Awamutu on October 12 for the final event in this series and the prizegiving.

Intermediate Section

The top 10 after 6 events look like this:

| Rank | Name | Club | Points | Sessions |
|------|-------------------|------------|--------|----------|
| 1 | Bettina Dudley | Te Puke | 26 | 6 |
| 1 | Rosemary Wilkey | Tauranga | 26 | 6 |
| 3 | Ted Cliffin | Thames | 23 | 5 |
| 3 | Barbara McFarlane | Thames | 23 | 5 |
| 5 | Bob Strawbridge | Waitomo | 20 | 6 |
| 6 | Sheila Lister | Waitomo | 19 | 5 |
| 7 | Lyudmyla Watts | Matamata | 18 | 6 |
| 8 | Judith Howard | Matamata | 17 | 6 |
| 8 | Graham Saunders | Waikato | 17 | 5 |
| 8 | Nick Saunders | Te Awamutu | 17 | 6 |
| 8 | John Little | Waikato | 17 | 5 |

Its all to play for still with a maximum of 10 points plus bonuses available. The excitement builds!!

See you all at Matamata and Cambridge folks

The Top Dogs Currently

