



## **Otago Southland Regional Committee Update Sept 2024**

Greetings from the committee

The Otago Southland Regional Committee remained largely unchanged after the recent elections but we welcome Hamish MacDonald of the Queenstown club to the committee (not much arm twisting required), and to the role of Treasurer. Welcome Hamish.

### **Dan Gifford Rubber Bridge Championship**

Our congratulations to the winners of the **Otago/Southland rubber bridge**, Sam Coutts and Brad Johnson. We wish them success when they compete in the finals at congress in Tauranga in September. Entries were received from throughout the region but the number of entries was lower than we had hoped. We encourage everyone to have a go, it is fun, it's different to duplicate and it's not that difficult; have a look at Waikato-Bays Bridge club info on rubber bridge at [www.waikatobays.bridge.org](http://www.waikatobays.bridge.org). The Committee send invites to all clubs (with scoring instructions and rules) in March/April every year and each club is invited to ask for entries and run an elimination at their club to find a club winner. We then run playoffs between the clubs to find the winning representatives.

### **The Regional Challenge 2024**

**Team trials** took place at the Otago Club in May. Thank you to Otago for holding and running these on our behalf once again. You do a great job. The teams that will be representing the region at the Regional Challenge in Wellington in November 2021 are:

**Intermediate:** David Larsen & Mark Wilson; Blair Corlett & Kerry Kelly; Jos van Hees & Hamish McDonald

**Open:** Brad Johnson & Sam Coutts; Kevin Skoropada & Moss Wylie; John Sheehy & Robert Cowan

**Senior:** Graeme Stout & Pamela Nisbet; Frances Sheehy and Phil Hensman

**Women:** Barbara Hutton & Jet Quennell; Anne Somerville & Emma Strong; Kaye Wilson & Wynn Jones

**Chef de mission:** TBC                      Our best wishes to them all as they represent our region.

The trials will be held again in May 2025. While the committee has yet to decide on the format for selection, now is the time to find a partner, establish a team and play together so that you have your systems, defence and partnership understanding sorted before the trials and have a go.

### **Regional Bridge Conference**

I was privileged to attend this in Wellington in July. It was interesting to share ideas and concerns with other regional representatives. One of the major topics was the amending of the national and club constitutions to meet the criteria set by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. This is covered extensively in the recent email compiled by the Auckland/Northland region and distributed by NZ Bridge. If you haven't yet formulated your club's amended constitution and haven't seen the article, please let us know and we will share the link.

Another topic which we will be repeating at our conference in November is Anne Barrowclough's presentation on the establishment of the NZBridge toolbox. It's a very useful stack of information aimed at clubs just like yours.

### **Otago Southland Regional Conference**

After the success of last year's conference in Alexandra we are following up with what is looking likely to be another very successful conference on Nov 3 2024 at the Balclutha Club. We are hopeful to once again have the national president, Alan Morris present, as well as Anne Barrowclough as mentioned above. The programme outline is also attached with this newsletter, and we look forward to seeing at least two representatives from every club there.

The regional committee is more than happy to support clubs in the region if they have questions, concerns or kudos. Please feel free to contact one of us, if we don't know the answer, we will be happy to try to find it for you: Judith

Lawton [judith.lawton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:judith.lawton@xtra.co.nz) (Chairperson)

Carole Bee [carolebeecb@gmail.com](mailto:carolebeecb@gmail.com) (Secretary)

Hamish McDonald [hamishmcdconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:hamishmcdconsulting@gmail.com) (Treasurer)

Phil Noye [noyepc@gmail.com](mailto:noyepc@gmail.com)

Yours in bridging

Judith

Chairperson Otago Southland Regional Committee  
September 2024