

# COMMERCIAL CLUB ALBURY BRIDGE CLUB

March 2017 Newsletter

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM was held last Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, and with the retirement of two of our Committee Members the new Committee for 2017 is as follows:-

President: Richard Harman  
Vice President: Sue McConnell  
Secretary: Bruce Cowan  
Treasurer: Jean Haynes  
Members: Lois Nicholson  
Ann Rice  
Pam Leahy  
Richard Howell  
Lois Best

Our retiring Secretary, Sue Miller, was thanked for the wonderful job she has done in the past and our new Secretary, Bruce Cowan, was wished well for taking over the onerous task from Sue. Our other retiring Committee Member, Joan Sattler, was thanked for the many years she has served on the Committee and both Sue and Joan were presented with gifts for services rendered. Sue Miller thanked Richard Harman for the fabulous job he continues to do as our President, which was unanimously agreed by all present. We also welcomed both Richard Howell and Lois Best as our newest Committee Members.



## NATIONWIDE PAIRS

Nationwide Pairs will be held on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> March.

## 70% CLUB

Congratulations to Zyg Roberts and John Friesen for the great 74.88% achieved on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> Feb.

## COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS – TNT!

TNT = Total Number of Trumps, aka LoTT = Law of Total Trumps, which states - *The total number of tricks available on a deal is equal to the total number of trump cards both sides hold in their respective longest suit combinations. So, if NS have 9 cards as their best fit and EW have 8 cards as their best fit, the LoTT predicts that the hand will produce 17 tricks (if played twice – once by EW & once by NS)*

This rule does not say how many tricks each side will take, but merely forecasts the total tricks, so in the example above, if NS can make 10 tricks, EW can probably only make 7 tricks. How can one use this theory? As in a previous Newsletter article, some pairs simply bid to the level of the trump fit, but LoTT can be used to assess if you should bid 1 level higher, or if a sacrifice is warranted, etc.



Imagine that you have a 10 card Spade fit & the opponents are bidding & supporting Hearts – their fit will be at least 9 Hearts. LoTT says that there are 19 tricks available on this hand, so someone can make game. Bid 4 Spades & if you don't make 10 tricks, your opposition can usually make game in Hearts – this is an each-way bid by you. Another scenario – you have a 10 card Diamond fit after Partner opened 3D. The opponents now bid game in Spades – do the math! Assume that they have a 9-card fit & can make 10 tricks. Using LoTT, there are 19 tricks available & the opponents have 10 – you can make 9 tricks and (depending on Vulnerability) should sacrifice in 5D.

### BEGINNERS LESSONS

Richard's Beginners Lessons commence on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March so if you know of anyone contemplating taking up the game could you please give them Richard's phone number.

### BIRTHDAYS

Members who are celebrating birthdays this month include Ann Rice, Marg Elias, Val Sanderson, Colleen Jensen, Jill Hulm, Val Smith, Joan Sattler, Helmut, Hazel Rae, Helen Wearne, Alex Cortt and Edna Bramley. Our best wishes go to all on their special day.



## Ever heard a player say things like these?

- Ten things a bridge player would never say ...
1. This club (playing area) is always the right temperature – never too hot or too cold.
  2. Free coffee? No thanks.
  3. Cool! A four-board sitout.
  4. No, I don't think tournament fees are too high.
  5. I can always count on my partner to remember every convention on our card.
  6. No gossip, please. I'm not interested.
  7. More new Alerts! More new Alerts!
  8. One thing I can say about bridge players – they sure know how to dress.
  9. No matter which direction we sit, the cards always go our way.
  10. I don't feel like bridge today, thanks. I'd rather jog and work out.

– Marilyn White, Toronto